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Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-081
Thursday
29 April 1993

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-081

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Russian Paper: U.S. To Sell Arms to DPRK

SK2804115293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1141 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Moscow, April 28 (YONHAP)—The United States has approved the sale of 580 million dollars worth of military technology and weapons to North Korea, a newspaper published here reported on Wednesday.

The KOMMERSANT daily, quoting U.S. congressional materials on America's arms exports during the current fiscal year, said the U.S. administration approved exports of military expertise and weapons totaling 589 million dollars to North Korea.

But the newspaper did not say about the kind of technology and weapons the U.S. plans to ship to North Korea.

The Russian daily said the U.S. administration approved the arms exports to North Korea on a non-governmental basis, that is, on a commercial basis. North Korea is one of the U.S.'s trade embargo countries, it said.

The report further said that behind the U.S.'s current effort to come in contact with Pyongyang is the question of arms exports to North Korea in addition to getting Pyongyang to reverse its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

U.S. Said To Deny Report

SK2904052093 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 29 Apr 93 p 3

[YONHAP report from Washington, D.C.]

[Text] The U.S. State Department on 28 April flatly denied the report carried by the Russian daily KOMMERSANT that the United States approved sales of military technology and weapons of approximately $589 million to North Korea during fiscal year 1992.

'Source': G-7 Agree to Stabilize Currency

OW2804143593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1425 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Washington, April 28 KYODO—A Japanese Finance Ministry source indicated Wednesday [28 April] that other major economic powers will agree to help Japan try to cap the yen's skyrocketing value at their meeting Thursday [29 April].

Asked if finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations will agree to stabilize the volatile currency markets at the meeting, the source said, "we will not be disappointed this time around." Since the yen has soared 12 percent in value so far this year, Japan has been seeking support from its G-7 partners—Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and the United States—to help stem the yen's upswing. Disputing opinions expressed by other G-7 nations, Japanese officials have argued that a strong yen will not help tame Japan's bulging trade surplus, at least over the short term, because it will dampen domestic demand, thereby denting imports. The G-7 allies have been turning deaf ears to the Japanese Government plea, with U.S. officials including President Bill Clinton repeating remarks backing a high yen as a way of cutting the bilateral trade gap. But more recently, G-7 members have apparently begun to heed the Japanese request.

Reversing his earlier stance, U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen said Tuesday [27 April] exchange rates should reflect economic fundamentals and must not be manipulated, a remark which triggered waves of dollar repurchasing that pulled the currency sharply back in New York and Tokyo. He also said the U.S. is ready to step into the market in coordination with other G-7 nations to prevent "excessive volatility" in currency trading.

'Sources': ASEAN, EC To Hold Security Talks

OW2904113893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1122 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—Twelve Asia-Pacific countries and the European Community will hold a high-level meeting on May 20-21 in Singapore to discuss regional security, Foreign Ministry sources said Thursday [29 April].

The 12 countries are Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, the United States and the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Topics include the peace process in Cambodia, where general elections are slated for May 23-28, and peaceful development of the disputed Spratly islands in the South China Sea, the sources said. The dispute over sovereignty of the islands, a group of atolls believed to be located over large undersea oilfields, once led to military clashes between Chinese and Vietnamese troops.

Deputy Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito will represent Japan at the talks, and Winston Lord, assistant secretary of state for Asian and Pacific affairs, will represent the U.S., the sources said. Saito will call for the Asia-Pacific regional security forum to become a regular get-together, the sources said. Delegates at the May talks may have to consider how to involve Russia, China and Vietnam in the security talks, since Asian security cannot be established without the cooperation of those nations, they said. Another key subject that remains to be decided is whether the new forum should involve top military officers from participating nations, they said.

Japan

'Sources': Clinton To Arrive in Tokyo for Talks 5 Jul

OW2904071393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0700 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—U.S. President Bill Clinton will arrive in Tokyo July 5 for talks with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa just before the Group of Seven (G-7) economic summit, government sources said Thursday [29 April].

It will be the second Japan-U.S. summit in three months. The talks will focus on trade, macroeconomic policies and aid to Russia, the sources said. The two leaders are also expected to confirm the framework of a bilateral economic consultative body aimed at correcting the trade imbalance between the two countries, the sources added. The United States wants to use the forum as a vehicle to expand exports to Japan by setting numerical targets for automobiles and other key export items. Also on the agenda will be the protracted Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, the sources said.

Japanese newspapers reported Thursday that Japan is toying with the idea of hosting a ministerial meeting on the Uruguay Round prior to the July 7-9 Tokyo economic summit.

Miyazawa Leaves for Visits to Australia, New Zealand

OW2904020893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0148 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa departed for Australia and New Zealand on Thursday [29 April] on a four-day visit for talks with the leaders of the two nations.

Miyazawa's talks with Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating and New Zealand Prime Minister James Bolger will include security in the post-cold war era, cooperation in the Cambodian peace process, and how to defend a global free trading system, government officials said.

They will also discuss the July 7-9 annual summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations in Tokyo, the officials said.

Miyazawa has repeatedly vowed to place emphasis on Japanese diplomatic efforts to bolster ties with countries located in the Asia-Pacific region.

It is the first visit by a Japanese prime minister to Australia since the 1988 trip by then Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

His visit to New Zealand is the first since the 1985 visit by then Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Foreign Minister Muto Departs for Venezuela, Mexico

OW2904034893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0331 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—Foreign Minister Kabun Muto left Thursday [29 April] for Venezuela and Mexico on a visit aimed at promoting ties between Japan and the two economic reform-minded Latin American countries.

It will be Muto's first overseas trip as foreign minister since he replaced ailing Michio Watanabe earlier this month.

Muto will hold talks with Venezuelan and Mexican leaders about the July 7-9 Tokyo economic summit and pledge Japanese support for economic reform in the two countries, officials said.

Muto will meet with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and his counterpart Fernando Ochoa on Saturday.

In Mexico, the officials said, Muto will meet Foreign Minister Fernando Solana on Monday and President Carlos Salinas de Gortari the following day.

Muto will ask the Mexican leaders to ensure that the North Amercan Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) does not become a protectionist trading bloc, they said.

Russia To Expand Cultural Exchanges To Improve Ties

OW2304144393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1111 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 23 KYODO—Japan and Russia agreed Friday [23 April] to expand cultural relations as part of a bid to generally improve relations between the two countries, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Foreign Minister Kabun Muto and Cultural Minister Yevgeniy Sidorov reached the accord concerning exchanges of music, art and other cultural items in their meeting in the Foreign Ministry, the officials said. Muto told Sidorov that Japan will help Russia promote the teaching of the Japanese language, work to make the study of Japanese history more popular and repair Japanese works of art already in Russia, they said.

Japan is appropriating 1.2 billion yen for fiscal 1993 to promote Japanese culture in Europe, including Russia. Following up the remarks by Muto, Sidorov said Russia will display "precious" Russian works of art in Japan and hold Russian exhibitions in the country, the officials said.

In addition, Sidorov was quoted as saying Russia expects a Japan-Russia joint consultative committee on the promotion of cultural exchanges to play an important role in promoting the exchanges between the two countries. Japan and Russia set up the committee last summer to study concrete ways of expanding cultural exchanges. It comprises 55 Japanese Government officials and business persons and 20 Russian Government officials.

Reportage on Visit of German Economics Minister

Meets With MITI Minister

OW2404065093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1443 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 23 KYODO—German Economics Minister Guenther Rexrodt indicated Friday [23 April] the need for companies of the former Eastern bloc nations to make use of capable Western business people, Japanese Trade Ministry officials said.

Rexrodt discussed the idea during talks with International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] Yoshiro Mori ahead of the West-East conference of economy, trade and industry ministers this weekend. He is to make the proposal at the meeting, the officials said.

The officials quoted Rexrodt as saying that the focal point of facilitating conversion to market economies in the former Soviet republics and East European nations is how to reform existing companies. The German minister also said he wants to see results from the assistance aimed at improving economy-related laws and land acquisition systems. The officials quoted Mori as replying that he wants concrete discussions on these matters at the conference, based on Rexrodt's proposals.

Confers With Hayashi on Russia

OW2604055393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0454 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—German Economics Minister Guenter Rexrodt told Japanese Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi on Monday [26 April] that Germany now intends to offer technical know-how and advice on economic reforms to Russia, Japanese officials said.

They said Rexrodt, who made the offer while meeting with Hayashi to discuss Western aid to Russia, noted Germany has already extended 50 billion U.S. dollars worth of financial aid to Russia.

On another subject, Hayashi agreed to Rexrodt's request that Japanese companies be asked to increase their investments in former East Germany, the officials said.

Rexrodt also paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Monday.

In the meeting, Rexrodt told Miyazawa that he believed last weekend's Tokyo meeting of ministers from the Group of Seven (G-7) nations and eight former Soviet bloc states was a "success" in laying the foundation for international cooperation.

Views Eastern German Economy

OW2604194293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1503 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—The economy of eastern Germany, which started growing in 1992 for the first time since reunification in October 1990, achieving a 6.1 percent real growth in the year, will show a higher growth in 1993 and 1994, German Economics Minister Guenter Rexrodt said on Monday [26 April]. Rexrodt made the prediction in a meeting with Foreign Minister Kabun Muto in Tokyo.

The German minister also told Muto that the former East Germany, now feeling the pinch of worldwide economic recession and the collapse of the former Soviet market, will probably attain a self-sustaining economic growth by 1994. He added, however, that it will take five to 10 more years before eastern Germany can achieve the same productivity and industrial infrastructure as western Germany.

Muto Summarizes Aid Plans for Eastern, Central Europe

OW2604194393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1513 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—Foreign Minister Kabun Muto told the economic ministers from four East European nations on Monday [26 April] Japan's aid pledges to seven Eastern and Central European nations since 1989 has totaled some 4.6 billion dollars. Muto made the remark at a meeting at the Foreign Ministry with the visiting ministers on economic affairs from Poland, Hungary and the Czech and Slovak Republics, ministry officials said.

Muto told the ministers that Japan will place its aid policy emphasis on efforts to expand trade and bolster investment in their nations, as well as finance their efforts to privatize their state-run enterprises. Japan will also assist with these nations' efforts to defend the environment from industrial pollution in pursuing its aid policy, Muto was quoted as saying.

Muto sought an understanding of these ministers for Japan's position that has called for European nations to ensure foreign trade competitors' access to their common market in the wake of the integration of the European Community, they said. Japan's aid commitments to the seven European nations accounts for 8 percent of the total aid pledges by the Group of 24 (G-24) developed nations interested in helping the East and Central European nations restructure their economies to market-oriented economies.

Japan's 4.6 billion dollar pledges include 1.7 billion dollars in Export-Import Bank of Japan loans, 1.15 billion dollars in its share in funding of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and 750 million dollars in trade insurances it had pledged to underwrite, the officials added.

MITI Invites Poland To Join Reform Promotion Program

OW2404053893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0514 GMT 24 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 24 KYODO—Japan invited Poland on Saturday [24 April] to join an economic reform promotion program, in which the two countries would work together to develop promising business sectors, Japanese officials said.

The offer was made by Minister of International Trade and Industry Yoshiro Mori during a bilateral meeting with Andrzej Arendarski, Polish minister of foreign economic relations.

Arendarski is in Tokyo to attend an international conference of trade and economic ministers of the Group of Seven industrial countries and former Soviet bloc states on helping market reforms of former Soviet republics and East European countries.

Prior to the plenary session of the two-day conference, starting Saturday afternoon, Mori met with Arendarski and said Japan would like to carry out a project similar to a Japan-Hungary arrangement, which has been carried out since last year, according to the officials.

Under the project Japan helps Hungarians in such areas as product development by sending experts to the country or accepting trainees to Japan.

Arendarski welcomed the offer, and said the Poland-Japan relationship has yet to reach the level Poland seeks, the officials said.

The country wants to establish a regular government-level bilateral forum to help push its market reform efforts steadily forward, Arendarski told Mori.

In addition to bilateral government forums, Poland seeks to cultivate talks between private businesses and industry experts, Arendarski was quoted as saying.

The Polish economic minister said his country also seeks broad-based assistance such as more market access to Western nations, further direct investment and early conclusion of the Uruguay Round of world trade talks, the Japanese officials said.

Ukraine Requests Economic Survey Mission

OW2604055293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0510 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—Visiting Ukrainian Foreign Economic Relations Minister Ivan Hertz on Monday [26 April] asked Japan to send an economic survey mission to the former Soviet republic as soon as possible, Trade Ministry officials said.

Hertz made the request during a meeting with International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori, the officials said.

They quoted Mori as responding positively, saying, "We are ready to give any useful advice we have."

"In making Japan's postwar economic recovery, agricultural reform played an important role," Mori said, according to the officials.

They said Hertz told Mori that Japan's postwar restoration experience, which he learned about at the two-day "West-East" trade ministers' conference ended Sunday, was encouraging since his nation is now in the process of reform.

Hertz was quoted as saying that his country will promote reform in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors, following Japan's example.

UK Minister Opposes Setting Quantitative Trade Targets

OW2404044093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0408 GMT 24 Apr 93

[By Keiko Tatsuta]

[Text] Tokyo, April 24 KYODO—British Corporate Affairs Minister Neil Hamilton on Saturday [24 April] rejected setting quantitative targets for resolving bilateral trade imbalances.

Hamilton, in Tokyo for an international conference, said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, "Britain supports international free trade, and so we'll not be in favor of any proposal which might be characterized as managed trade."

"I don't think that we will be able to set quantitative targets for different sectors, for different products," he said.

Hamilton said Americans too are not seeking specific percentage targets for particular sectors, but showed understanding of U.S. moves to press Japan for a result-oriented approach.

"I can well understand their impatience to penetrate the Japanese market because the Japanese trade imbalance is still very significant.

"Japan has got to make greater efforts to reduce structural impediments to importing into Japan...We also want to see other restrictions reduced or eliminated as well."

As an example of problems caused by structural obstacles, he cited restrictions on foreign lawyers operating in Japan.

"We want to make it clear to the Japanese Government that removal of structural impediments to getting into the Japanese market is the key to solution of our long-term trade imbalance," he said, adding that liberalization is in the interest of the world economy.

Hamilton said a British program to expand exports to Japan called "Opportunity Japan Project" worked well and increased exports to Japan by 70 percent during the 1988-1990 period.

He expressed hopes for more British exports and investment in Japan, particularly in the medical and chemical sectors.

In this regard, he welcomed Japan's two packages of major pump-priming measures announced last August and this month, which he said could get its economy back on track.

Otherwise, it would be hard to break into the market when its economy is in trouble, he said.

On the trade ministerial conference of Group of Seven nations and former Soviet bloc states starting Saturday afternoon, he emphasized private sector cooperation.

"What East European countries need is trade rather than aid, so they need access to Western markets."

To this end, "we need to help them understand the mechanism of a market economy," Hamilton said, mentioning accounting systems and company laws as examples.

Delegation Head Warns of Whaling Commission 'Collapse'

OW2304151593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1310 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] Kyoto, April 23 KYODO—The International Whaling Commission (IWC) will collapse if delegates to its May meeting in Kyoto adopt a proposal for a whale sanctuary in the Antarctic, the head of the Japanese delegation to the meeting said Friday [23 April]. Kazuo Shima, who also serves as deputy director general of the fisheries agency, told a symposium on oceans and marine resources in the 21st century that the IWC scientific committee's estimate of as many as 760,000 minke whales in the Antarctic Ocean proves "there is no logical reason for a sanctuary."

"It (the proposal) tramples on the honest efforts of scientists up till now and is utterly pernicious," Shima said. At the same time, Shima said that indiscriminate harvesting by Japanese whalers had contributed to a depletion of whale stocks in the Antarctic Ocean in the past, and said he appreciates the antiwhaling movement for the action it took in calling a halt to this.

But Shima said people who eat whale meat are now being discriminated against and treated unfairly. Shima said he wants "to avoid ill-informed slogans" which treat environmental preservation and preservation of each and every whale as "one and the same thing."

Japan is expected to press at the meetings for a resumption of commercial whaling, but nations opposed to this are supporting a total ban on whaling in a French-proposed whale sanctuary in the Antarctic Ocean. Japan ceased commercial whaling in the Antarctic after the IWC adopted a moratorium on commercial whaling in 1982, and now catches only about 300 minke whales a year for what it calls "scientific purposes."

The Japanese side at the conference is expected to argue for a suspension of the moratorium to allow the commercial harvesting of minke whales in view of the growth in numbers, but the proposal for a sanctuary would close the door to a resumption of commercial whaling by Japan. Japan is also pushing for an annual catch quota of 50 minke whales for residents of several towns, including Taiji in Wakayama Prefecture and Ojika in Miyagi Prefecture, where whaling has been a traditional means of livelihood.

U.S. Study Could Delay Whaling

OW2904090493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0852 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Kyoto, April 29 KYODO—The United States has proposed that the impact of environmental change on whales be studied before any resumption of commercial whaling is allowed, sources at the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting said Thursday [29 April]. The sources said the proposal is contained in a report prepared by a scientist working for the U.S. Commerce Department and was tabled at a meeting of the IWC Scientific Committee.

The report argues for careful consideration of the effects of environmental changes, including damage to the ozone layer, before any adequate assessment of whale stocks in the Antarctic Ocean can be completed. The proposal will be debated during the May 10 to 14 general meeting of the IWC in the ancient Japanese capital of Kyoto. It is the first time the IWC has met in Japan since 1968. The report proposes that the impact of environmental change should be factored into a newly devised whale management formula for debate at the IWC meeting. The computer-developed formula, known as the Revised Management Procedure (RMP), would enable the IWC to determine quotas for the sustainable harvesting of certain whale stocks not threatened with extinction. Consideration of the impact of environmental change on whale stocks is not part of the RMP and the proposal is likely to prompt heated debate if the Japanese side sees it as a further obstacle an early resumption of commercial whaling in the Antarctic.

Japan makes no secret of its desire to resume commercial harvesting of minke whales in the Antarctic. The IWC Scientific Committee has estimated there are about 760,000 minke whales in the Antarctic Ocean. Japanese whaling industry representatives say that computer-simulated application of the RMP shows that an average of 2,000 minke whales could be taken annually from the Antarctic region without posing a threat to the species. But the sources said the U.S. report claims that changes such as increases in harmful ultraviolet rays caused by damage to the ozone layer and in carbon dioxide could exert a long-term, irreversible effect on the ecology of the Antarctic region.

The proposal, if accepted, would necessitate a long-term research program including the gathering of data on the influence of environmental change, particularly on baleen whales which include the finback, gray and right whale, and possible consequent alterations in whale stocks.

Economic Indicators Index Exceeds 'Boom-or-Bust Line'

OW2704055193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0523 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 27 KYODO—Japan's diffusion index of leading economic indicators for February rose above the boom-or-bust line of 50.0 percent after touching the critical threshold in January for the first time in 10 months, signaling that the economy is heading toward recovery, the Economic Planning Agency reported Tuesday [27 April].

The February index ended at 80.0 percent, up from a revised 54.5 percent in January, the agency said in a preliminary report.

Any figure above 50.0 percent is interpreted as a signal the economy will expand during the ensuing three to six months, while any lower levels indicate contraction.

The index of coincident indicators stood at 66.7 percent for February, posting its first rise above 50.0 percent in 24 months. This compared with an 11.1 percent in January.

The index of lagging indicators, which measures economic performance in recent months, came to 28.6 percent, compared with January's 35.7 percent. This is below 50.0 percent for the 12th month in a row.

Bank of Japan: Domestic Economy at 'Delicate' Stage

OW2304144593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1126 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 23 KYODO—The Bank of Japan said Friday [23 April] the Japanese economy has entered a delicate stage, suggesting it is nearing bottom although personal consumption is still flagging.

The central bank, in its quarterly report on the domestic economy, predicted that the money supply, which has been stagnant, will turn upward in the April-June period, although registering a year-on-year growth rate of less than 1.0 percent. The report expressed concern that the recent rapid appreciation of the Japanese yen will deal a serious blow to export-related industry.

In this connection, a senior bank official termed the pace of the yen's appreciation "too swift." The report described inventory adjustment, which has progressed steadily centering on the processing industry, and the upturn of stock prices as plus factors for the economic recovery. The risk of a further downturn in the domestic economy has dwindled, the official said.

Bank Report: Consumers Benefit From Strong Yen

OW2304151293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1347 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 23 KYODO—Japanese consumers have benefitted from the recent steep appreciation of the Japanese yen as importers of consumer goods implemented price cuts ranging from 10 percent to 30 percent, a commercial bank report said Friday [23 April].

The report released by Mitsubishi Bank said importers moved to reduce prices in February when the yen began to rise against the dollar. Even when the yen's appreciation was less than 10 percent, prices of most imported consumer goods were reduced by more than 10 percent, the report said. In the case of sundry goods and foodstuffs, the price cuts ranged from 20 percent to 30 percent, it said.

When the yen appreciated 24.5 percent against the dollar following the so-called Plaza Accord among the seven major industrial countries in 1985, price cuts averaged only 6.6 percent for automobiles and 20.0 percent for foodstuffs, the report said. It said importers and retailers apparently took quick action in the current circumstances in order to overcome the sluggish personal consumption that was depressing their profits.

Direct imports by retailers and the inroads of foreign makers into the Japanese market have made it easier to pass foreign exchange gains on to consumers, the report said. The report also cited import tariff cuts and liberalization of farm imports as favorable factors.

Planning Agency Calls for Improved Distribution System

OW2904082893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—A study group of the Economic Planning Agency on Thursday [29 April] called on manufacturers and retailers to build up mutually complementary distribution ties to streamline the nation's distribution system. This is in response to growing needs for diversified services among consumers, the study panel said in its report on the direction of distribution reforms and restructuring of Japan's distribution network.

The report pointed out that more manufacturers are adopting a "just-in-time" goods transport system in an effort to reduce inventories to zero, with the effect of declining delivery efficiency in other areas. Another factor is that convenience stores and other retailers are seeking more frequent deliveries of goods in smaller lots, it said. Such tactics, prompted by keen sales competition among retailers, adds to the manpower shortage and raises costs, the report said. To remedy the situation, it suggested that manufacturers and retailers establish inter-business information networks on distribution and forge ways to share costs.

NTT To Invest 110 Billion Yen in 'Pump-Priming Package'

OW2804093293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0910 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 28 KYODO—Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) said Wednesday [28 April] it will invest 110 billion yen in fiscal 1993 to support the government's pump-priming package.

Masashi Kojima, president of the company, said 60 billion yen will be front-loaded in the first half of fiscal 1993 and 50 billion yen will be an additional investment. Kojima said capital investment by the giant domestic telecommunications company in the current fiscal year will total 1.89 trillion yen, up from the originally planned 1.84 trillion yen.

The government earlier asked telecommunications firms to increase capital investment for fiscal 1993 by a total of 250 billion yen and move up disbursements of investment in the first half to support its record 13.2 trillion yen stimulus package.

Beef, Orange Imports Hit All-Time Highs

OW2304152093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1327 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 23 KYODO—Japan's imports of beef and oranges in 1992 hit all-time highs apparently because of tariff cuts, the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) reported Friday [23 April]. The government-subsidized organization said beef imports climbed 16.5 percent over the preceding year to 412,000 tons, worth 2.09 billion dollars, up 15.6 percent.

The tariff on beef imports was lowered to 60 percent from 70 percent in April 1992. Orange imports, mainly from the United States, increased 2.1-fold to 172,000 tons, valued at 150 million dollars, up 15.2 percent, JETRO said.

Imports of orange juice, decontroled in April, surged 56.5 percent in volume and jumped 80.6 percent in value, it said. The value of shrimp imports dropped 6.2 percent to 2.83 billion dollars, the first fall in eight years, due largely to the collapse of Japan's "bubble economy." In volume, shrimp imports totaled 290,000 tons, down 4.7 percent, but the shrimp remains Japan's top imported food item in terms of value, the organization said.

Japan's total food imports in 1992 amounted to 38.14 billion dollars, up 7.9 percent, it said.

Livestock Production Tops Rice Output in Fiscal Year 1991

OW2804121393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1136 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 28 KYODO—Japan's livestock and dairy production topped rice output in terms of value in fiscal 1991 for the first time in history, the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry reported Wednesday [28 April].

The ministry's preliminary data put Japan's rice production at 3,018.3 billion yen, down 8.9 percent from the preceding year, compared with livestock and dairy output worth 3,305.3 billion yen, up 0.1 percent. The ministry said bad weather was responsible for the decline in rice output. The ministry said overall agricultural production in the year that ended in March 1992 declined 0.2 percent from the year before to 13,055.7 billion yen, with rice output accounting for 23.1 percent compared with 25.3 percent for livestock and dairy production. In 1960, rice production accounted for 46 percent of the total agricultural output against 16 percent for livestock and dairy production, the ministry said.

The ministry said the gross agricultural produce—the value of total farming output minus fertilizer costs—grew 0.4 percent to 7,906.1 billion yen, accounting for 1.7 percent of the nation's total industrial output, down 0.1 percentage point from the previous year.

Reportage on Possible Reform of Political System

Private Panel's Proposal Criticized

OW28041[illegible]093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1407 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 28 KYODO—A private panel's proposal to revamp the multiseat election system for the House of Representatives came under heavy criticism from some of the nation's leading political scientists and activists Wednesday [28 April].

The proposal was unveiled April 16 by the panel grouping industrialists, academics and journalists. It calls for the introduction of a system with 300 single-seat constituencies and another 200 seats disbursed in proportion to the number of votes mustered by each political party. At a lecture meeting at the parliamentary museum in Tokyo, Tokyo Gakugei University Prof. Nobuo Sakagami blasted the proposal for promoting a system that would hand over approximately 70 percent of lower chamber seats to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). Of the 300 seats to be contested under the single-seat system, some 250 would be won by LDP politicians and the remaining 50 would go to the largest opposition Social Democratic Party [of Japan], Sakagami said, quoting his own calculations based on the private panel's format. The other 200 seats would be appropriated in rough proportion to the current parliamentary strength of existing political parties in the lower house, he said, in which the LDP holds about three-fifths of the seats.

Mutsuko Miki, widow of mid-1970s Prime Minister Takeo Miki, condemned the panel members for "fawning upon the LDP to preserve its current parliamentary strength." She also rapped the LDP's own proposal to introduce 500 single-seat constituencies for lower house elections as a plot to "ensure reelection of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa." She described as "narrow-minded" the LDP's argument the multiseat electoral system carries the defect of motivating politicians from the LDP to compete with each other in the same constituency, causing them to spend lavishly to cultivate voters' goodwill. "LDP politicians vying with each other in the same constituency have only to strike an accord to refrain from spending campaign funds lavishly," she said.

Meiji University Prof. Nobuo Tomita said parliamentary democracy in Japan may be scuttled if voters' political consciences become paralyzed further and they renounce their indignation at corruption. "Japanese voters appear to [be] developing spiritual emptiness, while their stomachs may be full," he said. "If the current cynical resignation against political corruption should continue, it would allow our democracy to be destroyed."

Yuka Soma, who hosted the lecture session, said money-dominated politics would never be cleaned up unless both politicians develop "sensibilities to feel ashamed of themselves" when they take bribes or commit other wrongdoings. Soma is a daughter of the late parliamentarian Yukio Ozaki, who was arrested in 1942 after denouncing wartime Prime Minister Gen. Hideki Tojo.

Business Leaders Urge Rapid Reform

OW2804061093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0526 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 28 KYODO—Business leaders called for swift political reforms in a top-level meeting with senior officials of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Wednesday [28 April], conference sources said.

The session at a Tokyo restaurant was attended by leaders of the ruling party and four major economic organizations.

The LDP was represented by four executive officers, led by Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama and Koko Sato, chairman of the Executive Council.

The business leaders included Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), and Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai).

Hiraiwa expressed strong hope that bills on political reforms will be passed by the current session of the Diet, scheduled to close on June 20, the sources said.

They said Hiraiwa made the appeal after Kajiyama reported that no conclusion on proposed reforms has been made yet and the LDP plans to go ahead with its own program.

Kajiyama also said the ruling party considers an income tax cut important and now is looking for a source of funds to pay for it other than issuing national bonds, the sources said.

Hayami was quoted as telling the meeting that Japan should reject U.S. demands for Japan to impose quantitative controls on individual export items because such moves will lead to managed trade.

Komeito Leader Supports Compromise

OW2604043793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0334 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—The leader of Japan's second largest opposition party Komeito proposed Monday [26 April] that ruling and opposition parties reach a compromise to enact a political reform bill during the current ordinary Diet session due to end June 20.

Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida, speaking at a meeting of the party's central committee, said, "Each of the parties should make every effort to forge agreement (on political reforms)."

Ishida urged the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and opposition groups to reach the compromise by around May 20 to get reform bills through the current Diet session.

The LDP has tabled a set of four bills aimed at tightening controls on political funding and also at introducing single-seat constituencies for House of Representatives general elections.

A package of six bills tabled by the two largest opposition parties—the Social Democratic Party and Komeito—propose replacing current multi-seat constituencies with a system based on proportional representation.

In his speech, Ishida expressed support for a separate plan proposed by a private panel of experts calling for the number of lower house seats to be reduced from 512 to 500.

The plan also calls for 300 of the seats to be selected by single-seat constituencies and the remaining 200 through proportional representation.

Ishida said the political reform proposal by the council composed of industry, labor and media leaders, will enable a change of governments. The LDP has held power for most of the postwar era.

SDPJ's Akamatsu Interviewed

OW2904104993

[Editorial Report] Tokyo FNN Television Network in Japanese at 2313 GMT on 24 April, in its "News 2001" program, carries a live 14-minute interview with Hirotaka Akamatsu, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], by Yuji Kuroiwa and Kaori Matsuyama. Akamatsu speaks via a relay from Nagoya.

Kuroiwa first asks Akamatsu whether the ruling and opposition parties will be able to reach a compromise on electoral system reform by adopting the renyo plan [a mixture of single-seat electoral districts and proportional representation with some advantages to the smaller parties] proposed by the private Political Reform Promotion Council. Akamatsu admits that the renyo plan is one of the reform plans worth considering, but he notes the need to further promote open debate on the reform plan proposed by the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the plan put forward jointly by the SDPJ and Komeito. He proposes that the renyo plan be discussed while promoting the debate. Asked to evaluate the renyo plan as an individual politician, Akamatsu speaks highly of the efforts made by the private council to work out the renyo compromise plan, but he questions whether the plan will be able to reflect public opinion in the election results. He then points out that there are disadvantages to the smaller parties and advantages for the LDP in the proportional representation idea.

Asked whether the renyo plan can be considered a step forward for the ruling and opposition parties in reaching a compromise, Akamatsu stresses that the LDP and opposition should strive to find common ground to enact political reform bills, including a bill on electoral system reform, during the current Diet session. Touching on the movement of the League of SDPJ Diet Members for Reform, the largest intraparty group, and urging the SDPJ leadership to go ahead with the party's own reform plan, Kuroiwa asks Akamatsu whether such a movement is an act to prevent the SDPJ leadership from making a compromise with the LDP, or to smash reform efforts. While admitting that such a movement has been seen in the party, Akamatsu just notes that there are various opinions on political reform within the SDPJ. In the end, Akamatsu notes that it is desirable to work out the best electoral system reform plan by picking all the best points from the many proposed plans.

LDP Committee Drafts Guidelines for Political Funds

OW2604150993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1338 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—A Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) committee on Monday [26 April] drafted a proposal to establish regulations to distinguish between private and public money in politics, party officials said.

The committee, headed by LDP Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama, was set up due to mounting public criticism of political corruption in the wake of tax evasion charges against fallen LDP kingpin Shin Kanemaru.

The draft will be formally adopted Tuesday [27 April] by the party's decision-making Executive Council.

To guarantee adherence to the new criteria, the new regulations will be explained in detail to the accountants of all LDP Diet members, according to the officials.

Special advisory bodies will also be set up.

In the future, money received directly from constituency supporters as well as campaign funds from a candidate's party will be considered "public" income.

Funds raised or received for purposes such as celebrations of an election victory, lectures, and weddings are considered "private" and as such taxable private income.

"Public" expenses include payroll costs for office staff, billed expenses for political activities, member fees for all kinds of parliamentarians leagues, expenses for trips to constituencies, and printing of posters.

Legislators may estimate their private share of expenses for postage and telephone bills.

Japan New Party Wins Mayoral, Assembly Elections

OW2804090893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0856 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 28 KYODO—The fledgling Japan New Party (JNP) boosted its standing at local elections in April with five of its six candidates winning mayoral seats, election results showed Wednesday [28 April].

The JNP, headed by former Kumamoto Governor Morihiro Hosokawa, won mayoral elections in Kooriyama, Itami, Habikino, Tanashi and Ogoori, all medium-sized local cities, only losing in Kodaira in Tokyo. In addition, all of the party's four candidates captured assembly seats in Kamakura, the ancient capital southwest of Tokyo.

General elections are to be held within the next 10 months in Japan, and voters are interested in whether the JNP would take significant numbers of votes away from the corruption-plagued ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

In April, 21 mayoral elections were held nationwide and eight candidates gained their first term in office. In Nagoya, one of Japan's biggest cities with a population of 2 million people, the incumbent mayor was reelected for a third four-year term with the backing of the LDP and four opposition parties. In Aomori, northern Japan, the incumbent was also reelected with the support of ruling and centrist parties. In Hino, a suburb of downtown Tokyo, Japan's oldest mayor at 81, was reelected on a Japanese Communist Party ticket. In Suzu, in central Japan facing the Sea of Japan, the incumbent mayor who supports a plan to construct a nuclear power plant won by a narrow margin against a candidate opposing the plan.

Emperor Attends Okinawa Tree-Planting Festival

OW2504035893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0332 GMT 25 Apr 93

[Text] Naha, April 25 KYODO—Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko attended a national tree-planting ceremony Sunday [25 April] in the southernmost island prefecture of Okinawa that included a prayer for the war dead.

At the outset, the 10,000 or so people attending the ceremony at Itoman offered a silent prayer for those killed in the battle of Okinawa, the only part of Japan which experienced ground battles during World War II.

It was the first time such a prayer was offered at a national tree-planting ceremony, the first of which was held in 1950 with the aim of promoting afforestation after the war.

Okinawa is the last among 47 prefectures to hold the annual festival. Yoshio Sakurauchi, speaker of the House of Representatives, and Okinawa Governor Masahide [Ota] also attended.

Emperor Akihito said he thinks holding the ceremony in an area once devastated by war is very significant.

The emperor, who arrived in the prefectural capital Naha with the empress Friday, is the first reigning monarch to visit Okinawa. He visited the prefecture five times when he was crown prince.

The emperor paid his respects the same day to some 200,000 war victims, including civilians, and offered deep condolences to about 150 representatives of relatives of the war dead.

Many of the dead were ordered to fight and pressured to commit suicide during the war fought under the name of the late Emperor Showa, Emperor Akihito's father.

Researchers Find Heat-Resistant Material for Space Shuttle

OW2804142993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1412 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Matsuyama, April 28 KYODO—Researchers said Wednesday [28 April] they have created a light-weight, highly heat-resistant material which will enable an increase in the size of space shuttles.

The researchers at Ehime University's engineering department and a Ministry of International Trade and Industry industrial research institute in Takamatsu, said the substance can resist temperatures close to 2,000 C [Celsius], is thin and light, and does not easily flake. The research team led by Takao Araki will announce details of their discovery in July at an international seminar in Kobe on the welding and bonding of leading-edge materials.

The U.S. space shuttle uses insulation made of ceramic tiles several centimeters thick fixed to its titanium-alloy outer walls. The tiles fracture and flake off because of heat generated when the space shuttle enters the earth's atmosphere. The research team found that when they melted the titanium with a laser beam and combined it with nitrogen, they obtained the highly heat-resistant compound titanium nitride. They found they could eliminate any delimitation between the actual wall of the shuttle and the outer heat-resistant material by gradually increasing the amount of titanium nitride in any number of layers applied to the surface. They said this would make it extremely difficult for the material to break off from the shuttle. The 0.6-millimeter, ultra-thin substance showed no fracturing even after being subjected 50 times to temperatures of around 1,700 C. "It's safer than the currently used tiles, and since it's thin and light, it makes it possible larger shuttle bodies," said Araki, a professor at Ehime University.

North Korea

Paper Points Out U.S. 'Human Rights Problem'

SK2904044993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT 29 Apr 93

["U.S. Had Better Behave Decently"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (KCNA)—The United States had better mind its own business instead of infringing on other's sovereignty over "human rights problem," says NODONG SINMUN today.

Recalling the black riot in Los Angeles in late April and early May last year, the news analyst defines it as an eruption of the pent-up resentment of the black people at the U.S. authorities' ever-worsening human rights violations based on the deep-rooted policy of racial discrimination.

The news analyst says:

The United States tops the list in racial and national discrimination. The blacks and other minorities are subject to harsh persecution and live a life no better than death in areas unfit for human habitation because of their skin color. Tens of millions of working people are deprived of elementary freedom and rights, even the right to existence.

This is the stark reality. But the U.S. ruling quarters are singing the disgusting ballad of human rights. In this way they try to conceal their ugly color as human rights violators and interfere in other country's internal affairs, wielding the stick of human rights.

At the time of the black riot in Los Angeles, Korean nationals in the city suffered the biggest losses. It was attributable to the U.S. policy of national discrimination. We cannot look on with folded arms at the fact that our nationals are undergoing discrimination in the United States.

The United States must renounce the policy of racial discrimination, compensate for the losses inflicted on the Korean nationals and take practical measures to protect their lives and property.

KCNA Reports 27 Apr ROK Military Activity

SK2904051093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppet army started the provocative "Ssangryong 93" military exercise against the North in South Korean Kangwon Province on April 27, a Seoul-based radio reported.

The puppet military intends to examine the war preparedness of the socalled "First Combat Corps" the mission of which is to ignite another war against the North, through the military exercise aimed at the formation of reinforcements and their movement and various kinds of regional training.

Before starting this exercise, the South Korean warmaniacs launched large-scale manoeuvres codenamed "Hwarang" in South Korean Kangwon Province and other areas on April 26, mobilizing "civilians, government officials and the army."

Radio Berates ROK on Cost of Maintaining U.S. Forces

SK2804151293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "Base Act by Colonial Servant"]

[Text] According to a foreign press report, U.S. Secretary of Defense Aspin testified before the Defense Subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee on 20 April that South Korea has annually and systematically increased the percentage of its defense burden sharing of the cost of the U.S. military presence in South Korea. According to his remarks, South Korean authorities have annually and systematically raised the ratio of the cost of the U.S. imperialist aggressive forces' presence in South Korea from 73 percent of the cost in 1991 to 76 percent in 1992 and 78 percent in 1993.

This clearly shows that the South Korean ruling clique is trying to keep U.S. troops in South Korea at all costs in exchange for continually increasing the cost of the U.S. military presence as the U.S. imperialists demand and pursue insidious political purposes on the strength of the U.S. military presence.

As everyone knows, the U.S. aggressive forces' presence in South Korea constitutes a basic obstacle standing in the way of the fatherland's reunification. It is also a permanent source, intensifying tension and increasing the danger of war in our country, and a root of all unhappiness and sufferings which the South Korean people are experiencing.

The U.S. imperialists' forcible occupation of South Korea resulted in our national division which has lasted for nearly half a century and made the Korean peninsula the most acute area in the world in terms of political situation.

Following its recent resumption of the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise—a test nuclear war and preliminary war—against us, the U.S. imperialists instigated some circles of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to refer our so-called nuclear issue to the United Nations, thus driving the situation on the Korean peninsula to the worst one which is extremely dangerous. The U.S. reckless war maneuver led North-South dialogue, which had achieved an excellent agreement with difficulty and was making progress, to a frozen state. This also ruptured North-South relations and reversed the situation which was moving toward detente and peace, thus driving the situation to the verge of war. This is why the world's peace-loving people as well as our people are vigorously waging the struggle to withdraw U.S. imperialist aggressive forces from South Korea.

Despite of this, the South Korean ruling bunch is running amok to keep the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces, instead of demanding their withdrawal, by offering more expenses required for maintaining them each year. This is an intolerable, antinational and antireunification crime, thus causing the righteous national indignation of all fellow countrymen.

Today the other countries are taking a rental fee from the United States for using their territories as a military base by the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces. Nevertheless, the South Korean ruling bunch, apart from not taking the fee, is offering expenses for maintaining the U.S. forces. It is also increasing such expenses each year. Thus, the South Korean ruling bunch is committing without hesitation such an act that can be carried out only by filthy people [chumul].

The fact that such human trash still exists within the nation is itself a shame of fellow countrymen. The South Korean ruling bunch, which does not pay any attention to the nation and the people, is indeed filthy and mean colonial stooges of the U.S. imperialists.

What one should not overlook moreover is that the South Korean ruling bunch violated the pledge it made before the whole country.

As has been already known, the North and the South solemnly pledged before the whole country to resolve the issue of peace and reunification of the country with the nation's driving forces according to the historic 4 July joint statement and the North-South agreement.

However, the South Korean authorities are attempting to continually keep the U.S. forces even by increasing the share of expenditure for maintaining the U.S. troops, thus yielding to the U.S. imperialists.

Such criminal maneuvers by the rascals are a scheme designed to extend their antipopular ruling system to the northern half of the Republic by depending on outside forces, instead of striving to achieve peace and peaceful reunification of the nation through dialogue and negotiations.

The South Korean authorities have not expressed any affirmative response to our 4-point demands for discarding the policy of reliance on outside forces, for expressing the will for forcing withdrawal of U.S. troops, for permanently suspending military exercises with foreign troops and for getting out of the U.S. nuclear umbrella. Rather, they offered an enormous amount of money, which was gained by squeezing the people's pockets, as cost for maintaining the U.S. forces, thus attempting to keep them. This illustrates that the South Korean authorities have no intention to resolve the issue of peace and reunification of the nation based on the spirit of national independence.

If the South Korean authorities attempt to extend their antipopular ruling system to the northern half of the Republic in collaboration with outside forces by going against the aspirations and desire of all fellow countrymen who are striving to achieve national reunification at an early date in a manner of founding a pannational unified state by leaving the different two systems and two governments intact, they should correctly realize that this is the very way leading to their own self-destruction.

What will be provided for the traitors who go against the nation's aspirations and desire is the only disgraceful end.

If the South Korean authorities truly want the nation's reunification and are interested in implementing civilian politics, they should discard the policy of reliance on outside forces and turn up on the road of great unity of the whole country for national reunification.

ROK Radio: South Refuses Reunification Proposal

SK2904053393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (KCNA)—The South Korean "government" has refused to accept four points proposed by the North for the solution of the problem of national reunification, South Korean radio No. 1 reported Wednesday.

Quoting Vice-Minister of "National Unification" Song Yong-tae's remarks, the radio said that such points as "stop to joint military exercises with foreign troops" and breakaway from the "nuclear umbrella" were "utterly unacceptable."

This is an unpardonable treacherous act intended to cast a chill over the desire of the entire fellow countrymen for reunification and incite confrontation and division and to gratify their aggressive ambition against the North at any cost.

The four points proposed by the fifth session of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK some time ago are primary points judging the South Korean authorities' independent stand.

If the four points—to renounce the policy of dependence on outside forces, manifest the will to get the U.S. forces withdrawn, stop joint military exercises with foreign troops for good and break away from the U.S. "nuclear umbrella"—are put into practice, it is quite clear that a historical turn will be brought in the North-South relations and a new phase be opened for the solution of national reunification question.

The four points are a yardstick showing whether the South Korean "government" is really an independent "civilian government" or not, and are the precondition for the peaceful Reunification of the country.

If those points are not carried into practice, tensions will grow acute on the Korean peninsula and our nation will fall a victim to a nuclear war of big powers.

The South Korean authorities should accept our four points without delay, clearly seeing what consequences would be entailed by such acts as inciting confrontation and division between fellow countrymen.

Paper Promotes 'Cause of National Reunification'

SK2804112093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1055 GMT 28 Apr 93

["Everything Must Be Subordinated To Cause of National Reunification"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 28 (KCNA)—The idea of achieving unity on the principle of promoting co-existence, co-prosperity and common interests and subordinating everything to the cause of national reunification, the idea expounded by the great leader President Kim Il-song in the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation, indicates the basic principle of the whole nation's great unity which fully reflects the aspiration and common interests of the nation, says NODONG SINMUN today.

The great leader President Kim Il-song said in "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country":

"3. Unity should be achieved on the principle of promoting co-existence, co-prosperity and common interests and subordinating everything to the cause of national reunification."

The paper notes:

Though our nation was divided into the North and the South, it is one nation of the same blood. The people in the North and the South are the fellow countrymen who should live in the same territory though they differ in ideology, idea and system.

If our nation give priority to the regional or class interests, far from making efforts to accomplish the cause of national reunification on the principle of putting the common interests of the nation above anything else, it would be impossible for ever for our country and nation to be reunified and it would mean committing a grave crime against the country and the nation.

Our fellow countrymen and our nation have no other choice but to reunify the nation by achieving great unity, the North and the South recognizing and respecting the existence of different ideologies, ideas and systems and achieving progress and prosperity together, neither side encroaching upon the other.

PRC, SRV Congratulate Kim Chong-il on Election

SK2804001493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 27 (KCNA)—Peoples of different countries have congratulated Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, upon his election as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

Congratulatory messages and letters came to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from party and state leaders, political and public figures of different countries.

Among them were Jiang Zemin, chairman of the Central Military Commission of China; Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia; and Le Duc Anh, chairman of the National Defence Council of Vietnam.

In the messages and letters they said the election of Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission was a manifestation of the unquestioned support to and trust of the Korean People and People's Army soldiers in him and a greatest joy of the world's revolutionary people.

The progressive people of different countries such as Russia, Burkina Faso, Ghena, Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi and Japan had rallies to congratulate Comrade Kim Chong-il on his election as chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission.

At a rally held in-Moscow under the sponsorship of the central council of the society for friendship and cultural cooperation with the DPRK, speakers said the election of Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission was a historical event in carrying to accomplishment the revolutionary cause pioneered by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Personages and public organizations of many countries published statements highly praising Comrade Kim Chong-il.

A statement of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea stressed that the election of Secretary Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission would develop onto a higher stage the struggle of the Korean people who are working hard, united around him in one mind, and greatly encourage the struggle for global independence.

Group Demands Japan 'Repent' Over 'Comfort Women'

SK2804220493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 28 (KCNA)—A meeting to think of the forcible drafting of Koreans and postwar disposal by Japan was held on April 18 on the occasion of the second anniversary of the inaugration of the Chiba Prefectural Korea-Japan Joint Fact-Finding group, according to a report of CHOSON SINBO.

The meeting heard reports from the Chiba Prefectural Fact Finding Group on the drafting of Koreans and regional fact-finding groups.

The reporters said that in the course of investigation into the underground factory of the Hitachi Aircraft Co. Ltd., the naval underground factory and the construction site of the naval air base it was found that over 1,500 Koreans had been drafted to 30 places of the prefecture and there were among them Korean "comfort women for the army". A recommendation was adopted at the meeting, which demanded that the Japanese authorities repent of the colonial rule over Korea and make sincere compensations for the forcible drafting of Koreans, forced labour and the problem of "comfort women for the army".

Defense Minister Attends Memorial for Revolutionary

SK2904104393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (KCNA)—A national memorial service took place at the people's palace of culture today to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the death of Yi Kwang, a communist revolutionary fighter who was intensely loyal to the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Present at the service were O Chin-u, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces; Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol, Politburo members of the C.C., the WPK and vice presidents of the DPRK; and other senior party and government officials.

Yi Kwang was a true communist revolutionary fighter of chuche type who exalted the glorious history of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle with his intense loyalty to the leader and unbounded devotion to the revolutionary cause.

In his memorial address Kang Sok-sung, director of the party history institute of the C.C., WPK, reviewed Yi Kwang's revolutionary career and fighting exploits.

Born into a poor peasant family in North Hamgyong Province on Nov. 23, 1906, Yi Kwang emigrated to northeast China with his parents in his childhood and there he could not escape dire poverty and all manner of national and class oppression.

He felt keenly that there should be a distinguished leader with an outstanding ideology and strategy to restore the lost motherland and save the destiny of the oppressed nation.

It was not until he met with and received teachings from the great leader President Kim Il-song that he became a staunch communist adherent.

Acting as a hardcore member of an underground revolutionary organization and a competent commanding officer of the anti-Japanese people's guerrilla army enjoying the particular confidence of the great leader, he made an active contribution to implementing the chuche-based line of the Korean revolution and to founding the anti-Japanese armed ranks and strengthening and developing them.

His noble fighting spirit and heroic mettle as one of the excellent commanders of the Korean people's revolutionary army were fully displayed in the Xiaowangqing defence battle and other big and small battles to carry into effect the operational plan of the respected leader.

In particular, he educated soldiers of Chinese nationalist anti-Japanese units by his practical examples in bold military actions, experienced and lenient work methods and noble traits of the revolutionary army, thus greatly contributing to the achievement of the anti-imperialist joint front.

He died a heroic death in the Laoheishan area on April 29, 1933.

President Kim Il-song could not forget Yi Kwang who passed away too early, and spoke highly of him as a staunch, prudent, quick-witted, broad-minded, tenderhearted man with particular affection for his comrades, as a devoted communist who throughout his life volunteered to take upon himself difficult tasks.

Short as it was, Yi Kwang's was the noblest life of a revolutionary who lived the worthiest life with his intense loyalty to the leader and the revolution, to the country and the people and with his matchless devotion, the memorial address said.

NODONG SINMUN, the organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, carries an editorial article entitled "Indomitable Soldier Loyal to the Leader and the Revolutionary Cause" on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the death of Yi Kwang.

Reunification Groups Hold Meeting on 10-Point Program

SK2904110993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (KCNA)—A joint meeting of the Central Committees of the North side's headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and the Pan-National Federation of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghaknyon) took place at the People's Palace of Culture today to implement the "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country".

Paek In-chun, chairman of the North side's headquarters of Pomminnyon, delivered a report at the meeting.

He said the 10-point programme laid down by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the most just common programme of the nation to bridge over the difficulties and pave the way to national reunification by the concerted efforts of the nation at the moment when the cause of national reunification faces a grave challenge due to moves of the imperialists and separatist forces.

"The 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation which is run through with the idea of placing the interests of the nation above those of any class or stratum and subordinating everything to the cause of reunification is a great charter of national unity which makes it possible to achieve a broad unity of the whole nation by leniently embracing not only Koreans of all strata at home and abroad who aspire after reunification but even those who had committed crimes against the nation in the past," he said.

He stressed the need for the organizations of Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon to thoroughly implement the 10-point programme and thereby fully discharge their responsibility and tasks in the struggle for national unity and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Speeches were made at the meeting by Han Yong-su, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, Yun Hui-sop, chairman of the Kim Il-song University Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, and Kim Kyong-wan, president of Kim Chaek University of Technology.

A letter to the organizations of Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon at home and abroad was adopted at the meeting.

Expressing the hope that Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon organizations of the South and overseas sides would actively join them in the activities to implement the 10-point programme, the letter proposed the following points:

Firstly, let all the organizations of Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon conduct various forms of propaganda activities to make all the fellow countrymen in the North and the South and overseas unanimously support and respond to the 10-point programme.

Secondly, let us launch a powerful mass struggle to remove all the visible and invisible political and physical barriers that stand in the way of the implementation of the "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country".

Thirdly, let us firmly maintain the principle of national independence under the banner of the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation!

Fourthly, let us expand and strengthen the Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon organizations and enhance their role!

The letter calls upon the organizations of Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon to conduct an intensive movement for actively supporting and implementing the 10-point programme till the 15th of August and thus make the forthcoming joint presidium meeting of Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon, the fourth pan-national rally and the third grand reunification festival of Korean youth and students in the North and the South and abroad gatherings for great unity of the nation, grand festivities for bringing a turning point in achieving reunification in the 90s.

'Religionists Council' Supports Program

SK2804062493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 28 (KCNA)—An enlarged meeting of the Korean Religionists Council was held here Tuesday to thoroughly implement the "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country", a historical work of the Great Leader President Kim Il-song.

Present at the meeting were officials of the Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association and the Central Committees of the Buddhists Federation, the Christians Federation and the Roman Catholic Association, which are member organizations of the council.

The enlarged meeting discussed "on the tasks of religionist organizations and believers in carrying into practice the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country".

Chairman of the Council Chong Sin-hyok made a report which was followed by speeches.

The reporter and speakers proposed practical measures, stressing that the 10-point programme should be supported fully and a way for its realization be jointly explored.

A letter to religious organizations and believers in South Korea was adopted at the meeting.

The letter says "It is a duty of us religionists who aspire after justice, peace and reunification and the responsibility and task of us believers who love the country and the nation to realize the '10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country' which shows the path ahead of our nation and reflects the common desire of the nation."

"We ardently call upon all religious organizations and believers in South Korea," it says, "to lift up voices urging the authorities in the South to renounce the policy of dependence on outside forces in conformity with the aspiration of the entire nation for independence, express their will to get the U.S. forces withdrawn, desist from joint military exercises with foreign troops for good and rid themselves of the U.S. 'nuclear umbrella'."

"We sincerely expect that the religious organizations and believers in South Korea will vigorously wage the struggle for the complete abolition of the "National Security Law', "Security Planning Board" and "Secret Affairs Command", leftovers of the military fascist rule, and for the unconditional release of all the unwarrantably jailed prisoners of conscience, thus opening a broad avenue for a great unity of the whole nation."

Pyongyang Increases Spending on Railway Development

SK2804105193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 28 (KCNA)—The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has appropriated this year 3.1 percent more fund for the development of railway transport than in 1992.

The state investment in this domain last year went up 6.7 percent above the previous year to consolidate the material and technical foundations of railways.

As a result, heavy rails were largely introduced on major trunk lines, the 250 km Hyesan-Manpo youth line was switched over to electric traction and the electrification of several other sections including Pyongsan-Kaesong and Hamhung-Sinhung-Lake Pujon were successfully completed.

The DPRK Government has consistently directed big efforts to the development of railway transport, defining the railways as the artery of the country and the pilot of the national economy.

The total extension of the nation's railways has increased 3,360 kilometres compared with 1946 and thousands of kilometers of railway sections have been switched over to electric traction. The proportion of haulage by electric locomotives in railway freight transport accounts for 90 percent.

Solid production foundations have been built to fully meet the material and technical demands in railway transport such as 7,000 h.p. 8-axle electric locomotive, 100-ton heavy-duty wagon and heavy rails.

'Scientists' Hotel' Built in Munsu District

SK2904110893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (KCNA)—Scientists' hotel has been built in Munsu District east of river Taedong in Pyongyang.

The 20-storeyed hotel has a floor space of more than 22,000 square metres and an accomodation of 800.

Over 400 rooms of the hotel are furnished with high-class furniture, telephones, TV sets and other facilities necessary for the rest and cultural life of scientists.

The hotel also has a telex room, a typewriting room, telephone booths, a small meeting hall, a clinic, a dining hall, etc.

The hotel will accomodate scientists who come to the Grand People's Study House and scientific institutes in the capital.

KCNA Reviews 29 Apr Pyongyang Press

SK2904052793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a photo-illustrated report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received a Thai parliamentary delegation.

The Thai parliamentary delegation presented gifts to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong- il, says the press.

Seen in papers are messages of greetig to President Kim Il-song from foreign party leaders on his 81st birthday and an account of celebrations held by the "one Korea movement" of North America and in various countries on the occasion of April 15 holiday.

According to NODONG SINMUN, an immortal classical work of President Kim Il-song was published in booklet in different countries.

Papers carry a message of Comrade Kim Chong-il to Comrade Jiang Zemin, chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China, in reply to the latter's message of greetings upon his election as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Comrade Kim Chong-il's immortal classical wo pgbon the fundamentals of revolutionary party building" was published in booklet in India, says NODONG SINMUN.

The paper dedicates an editorial article to the 60th anniversary of the death of Comrade Yi Kwang who exalted the history of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle with his intense loyalty to the leader and unbounded devotion to the cause of revolution.

Econews of the press includes reports about new successes registered in different sectors of the national economy including the coal industry on the occasion of the forthcoming 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the fatherland liberation war.

NODONG SINMUN runs a joint statement of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Jordanian Communist Party.

Under the cross-page title "Korean people are not afraid of any pressure or 'collective sanctions'" the paper conveys words of the world public denouncing the clamor of the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for a "special inspection" of the DPRK.

Papers carry an account of an enlarged meeting of the Korean religionists council held to support the "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for Reunification of the country" and a letter to the religious organizations and believers in South Korea adopted at the meeting and repercussions of the programme upon South Korean people and overseas compatriots.

NODONG SINMUN in an article stresses that the proposal to found the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo is the reasonable way of reunification embodying the reunification idea of national independence.

The paper comes out with a commentary saying the black riot in Los Angeles, one year ago is attributed to the policy of racial discrimination of the United States, and an article entitled "european integration faces difficulty". The paper informs the readers of China's achievements in economic construction and that the Thai prime minister announced the decision of his government to join the non-aligned movement.

* Article Views Pyongyang's 'Advanced' Weaponry

932C0108A Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 18 Mar 93 p 11

[Article by Reporters Kim Kuk-hu, Yu Yong-ku and O Yong-hwan]

[Text] There are rows after rows of advanced weapon parts and components, in North Korea, to be processed.

North Korea has developed the chemical and biological weapons a handful of which can incapacitate millions of people and maintains the guided missiles, capable of reaching even the islands of Japan, positioned unyieldingly in underground fortifications.

North Korean weapons industry encompasses everything from a rifle to a submarine based on the principle of complete self-reliance, although its technology was imported, of course, from the old Soviet Union primarily.

It may fairly be said that this is the result of North Korea's accelerated efforts for its weapons development ever since the early sixties under the high banner of so-called "defense and economy co-advancement doctrine."

If North Korea possesses the nuclear weapons, it would now be one of the countries that have all of the ABC (atomic, biological, and chemical) weapons.

Furthermore, sale of weapons is North Korea's source of foreign currencies.

Although it has slowed down lately, the weight of missile sales amounted so heavily as to being one half (770 million dollars) of the total export in 1987.

Ironically, this advancement in weapons industry is tying up the North Korean economy because of its nature of production which is long on variety and short on quantity, and the industry faces difficulties even in reaching a break-even point.

Right now, the most threatening new weapons are the Scud missiles and the chemical and biological weapons.

As for the missile, North Korea brought in a few of the soviet made ground-to-ground Scud B's (target range of 300 kilometers) through Egypt in 1983 and, after having gone through several test firings, began manufacturing them in 1987.

In the following year, 1988, North Korea developed the Scud C missile, the target range being 500 kilometers, and deployed some 100 or more of them in the field, under the umbrella formation.

Last year, North Korea developed "The First Rodong" model, the latest model which is a further improved version of the Scud C missile.

This missile can cover the entire Korean peninsula within its target range which is over 1000 kilometers. Furthermore, it becomes a weapon of even greater horror when one considers the fact that it is capable of being mounted with the nuclear and the chemical warheads.

"The First Rodong" missile is a much more powerful weapon than the Scud B which was the primary Iraqi missile during the Gulf War.

The ground-to-air missiles, SAS and SA16, whose targets are fighter planes, are also considered some of North Korea's core advanced weaponry which make up its air defense system.

With the target range of 300 kilometers, the SAS, which is launched from a ground station can be serious threat to the south Korean fighter planes stationed north of the Kunsan-Indok perimeter.

On the other hand, the SA16's with a target range of five kilometers, are portable and known to have all been distributed to the special units and target at aircrafts of low altitude and low speed through radar guidance.

Also, among the newest and the sharpest weapons the North Koreans pride themselves with, are the ground-to-ship silkworm missiles with a target range of 95 kilometers, 170 milimeter cannon capable of firing tactical nuclear and chemical shells, and the FROG 7 rocket.

Of all the weaqpons, the most fearsome are probably the chemical and biological ones. North Korea possesses the third largest stockpile of them in the world after the United States and Russia.

According to the report prepared by the (Inspector General's Office) last year, North Korea seems to have stored 13 types of biological weapons, derived from viruses such as pest and typhus, in six base locations including Sariwon. It takes only 1.8 grams of pest virus germs to neutralize the entire South Korea.

Having developed such chemical weapons as nerve and blood destroying agents at the Chemical Laboratory of the Institute for National Defense Science, North Korea now has the capacity to produce 5,000 tons of them per year.

In addition, Chonma tanks modeled after the Soviet T62 tank, the T72 tanks the Soviet MIG29 fighters and the Romeo and Whiskey class submarines would also be counted as being North Korea's core weapons.

* Article Describes Regulations on Electricity Use

932C0102A Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 25 Feb 93 p 2

[Report on regulations on use of electricity]

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught as follows:

"To conserve electricity, we must first establish order and discipline so that people strictly observe the consumption standards of electricity."

The State Administration Council recently approved the regulations on the use of electric heating facilities.

The regulations consist of 11 articles elucidating fundamental tasks concerning the use of electric heating devices.

The purpose of the regulations is to establish system and order and tighten control over the use of such facilities and, by doing so, thoroughly carry through the intent of the party for preventing wastes of electric power and ensuring its effective use. It being so, the regulations are applicable to all agencies, enterprises, organizations and residents using these facilities.

Electric heating facilities as referred to in the regulations mean appliances and devices that convert electricity into heat for specific uses.

The regulations also define the approval procedures for the use of such facilities and the principles governing their use.

To strictly observe the procedures and principles as provided is an important way to prevent wastes of electric power and ensure its effective use.

According to the regulations, electric heat can be used only in cases where it is necessary to meet high technological requirements or to ensure the specified hygienic, cultural levels and where it cannot be substituted by other types of fuel. In this connection, the facilities are required to be set up and put to common use by each branch of the people's economy and each region so as to meet the requirements for specialization and concentration of production. Meanwhile, the devices to generate heat from electricity must be placed directly inside or in contact with or close to the objects to be heated to keep heat loses to the minimum.

The use of electric boilers, room heaters, and cookers is authorized only for installations approved by the state.

In regard to the use of electric heating facilities, the regulations also provide that it is required to be registered in advance with the pertinent departments and obtain their approval.

To meet this requirement is an important guarantee for establishing system and order in the use of the facilities, and for establishing control so that electric heat is used only where it is necessary.

According to the regulations, electric heat devices such as welders, irons, less-than-50-watt home appliances, and sterilizers, hair driers, and beauty devices in barber shops and beauty salons must be registered with the city or county electric power supply department before being put to use. Also, when institutes, enterprises, and organizations such as educational, scientific research, and health establishments want to use electric heating facilities for the purposes of scientific experiments, microorganism culture, disinfection, and medical treatment (except by herb medicine), they must obtain the approval of the provincial electric power supply department. In case the use of electric heating facilities is planned for purposes in the fields outside the jurisdiction of the city or county, or provincial power supply departments, it must be approved by the Power Industry Committee. In this connection, plans to newly install an electric boiler or an over-100-kilowatt electric furnace, will be put to deliberations by the Power Industry Committee and subjected to the approval by the State Administration Council. Also, in case changes are planned in the previously approved location, purpose, and capacity of electric heating facilities, they also need to be cleared by the pertinent electric power supply department. For the use of electricity generated by self-built medium- and small-size power plants for heating purposes through lines for their exclusive use, there is no need to obtain any such approval.

All functionaries and working people, let us thoroughly observe system and order in the use of electric heating facilities and, by doing so, contribute positively to the more effective use of electricity, a precious resource of the nation.

South Korea

Russian Defense Official Says Kim Il-song 'Ill'

SK2904001793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0006 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Moscow, April 28 [date as received] (YONHAP)—North Korean President Kim Il-song is ill, a senior Russian Defense Ministry official said Wednesday.

"I've heard that Kim has recently fallen sick," the official said.

Kim's actual condition and the cause of his illness were unknown because the matter was a state secret, he said.

UNSC To Convene 'Next Week' on DPRK NPT Move

SK2904022693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0212 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] United Nations, April 28 [date as received] (YONHAP)—The U.N. Security Council [UNSC] will convene a formal meeting next week to adopt its first resolution on North Korea's returning to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and accepting International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) special inspections, diplomatic sources said Wednesday.

All five permanent members of the council, except China, plus Japan were strongly pushing for the resolution, the sources said.

It was appropriate to adopt the first one now so that the second one, imposing sanctions, could be adopted in late May or early June, they said.

The resolution would be much more intense in tone than the UNSC president's statement issued April 8, they said.

It will specifically demand that North Korea come back to the NPT and submit its highly suspect nuclear facilities to IAEA special inspection, according to the sources.

China has repeatedly opposed addressing the North Korean nuclear issue at the Security Council, urging diplomatic dialogue and even North Korea-U.S. high-level talks.

Observers here predict that China, because of its stance, may not vote in favor of the resolution but that at least it will not be the only country to oppose it. China will probably abstain, they say.

An abstention would in effect show Pyongyang that Beijing can no longer side with it against the international community and have a serious impact on Pyongyang, according to the observers.

A well-informed source pointed out that North Korea insists on solving the problem bilaterally, through talks with the United States, but the problem has already become global and the matter has already been referred to the Security Council.

"Washington is keeping with its principle that this issue has to be solved at multilateral stage," this source said.

There is no date known for Pyongyang-Washington high-level talks, he said, and even they take place, they will be supplementary to the multilateral efforts.

'Source': U.S.-DPRK Talks To Follow UN Act

SK2904023993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0219 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Washington, April 28 (YONHAP)—The United States will start preparing for direct high-level contacts with North Korea soon after the U.N. Security Council [UNSC] adopts its first resolution on the communist country next week, a diplomatic source here said Wednesday.

American officials delivered a draft of the resolution to China, a permanent Security Council member with a veto and about the only country opposing the resolution against North Korea, on April 23 and negotiations are fully under way on the contents, according to this source.

Washington would wait one to two weeks after the resolution was passed by the Security Council before holding high-level talks with Pyongyang, he said.

U.N. sources indicated that the resolution was likely to come some time next week, and demand specifically that North Korea return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and accept special inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

They said there would be at least two resolutions on North Korea by June 12, when Pyongyang's NPT withdrawal becomes final after a three-month waiting period.

But the Washington-Beijing negotiations are not running so smoothly, the source said.

China insists that the United States and South Korea negotiate with North Korea before the nuclear issue is formally addressed at the Security Council, but Washington is unwilling to move without clear signs that North Korea will return to the NPT, he said.

"This is why the United States has not made up its mind yet about the high-level meeting with North Korea," the source said.

Arrangements for the high-level meeting will be made through a counselors' meeting at the U.S. and North Korean Embassies in Beijing, or through contacts at U.N. Missions, he predicted.

There has been speculation that the United States will link China's willingness and success to influence North Korea with most-favored-nation [MFN] status for Beijing, but this source said Washington had decided to handle these two elements separately.

Washington had hinted that China's persuasion of North Korea would "positively effect" U.S. consideration on extending MFN treatment for Beijing, but basic U.S. policy was not to connect the two issues, he said.

Seoul Denies Reports on DPRK-U.S. Talks

SK2904064293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0621 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government has denied a press report of a high-level contact between North Korea and the United States in Beijing next week.

"The time, place and representatives to the contact have not been specifically determined," Chang Chae-ryong, director-general of Foreign Ministry's American Affairs Bureau, said on Thursday.

Seoul's CHUNGANG ILBO newspaper had quoted Edward Fulner, head of the Heritage Foundation, as saying that U.S. Undersecretary of State Peter Tarnoff would represent Washington in a vice ministerial-level meeting with North Korea in Beijing some time next week.

"The possibility is very slim that such contact will take place without Seoul's knowledge," Chang said in reaction to the report.

Sources at the United Nations say the Security Council is ready to adopt a resolution next week demanding North Korea return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and comply with special inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, visiting Washington, suggested in late March that the United States seek a high-level meeting with Pyongyang to resolve the escalating tension caused by North Korea's NPT withdrawal.

Washington reacted cooly to Han's suggestion at the time, officials here said, but recently compromised and now says it will have a meeting when it detects possibility of a solution arising through it.

The officials predict that any U.S.-North Korea contact will be a while after the U.N. resolution.

'Source': Pyongyang Closes Main Airport; 'Riot' Reported

SK2904013793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0126 GMT 29 Apr 93

["Pyongyang Airport Reported Closed, Massive Riots Rumored"—YONHAP headline]

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—North Korea closed its main airport near Pyongyang probably on Sunday and diverted international flights to other cities, an informed source here said on Thursday.

"We have information alleging that the North Korean authorities rerouted foreign airliners using Sunan Airport to Galma Airport near Wonsan or to other airports," the source said. Sunday was the anniversary of the North Korean People's Army.

South Korean intelligence officials were also trying to confirm an intelligence report that a large riot or demonstration took place in Shinuiju city on April 22 or April 23, he said.

"We are closely examining whether the information has something to do with the large-scale military movements that wire reports have claimed were detected around Pyongyang," he said.

He said he could not determine whether Sunan Airport was still closed.

Other sources said there were recently a number of incidents in which soldiers shot at North Koreans crossing the border to China. They said North Korea had tightened its guard on the border after declaring its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Embassy in PRC Unable To Confirm DPRK 'Military Moves'

SK2904015693 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 29 Apr 93 p 1

[By correspondent Pak Sung-chun from Beijing; "ROK Embassy in PRC's Denial"]

[Text] In connection with the Japanese KYODO report that there were large-scale military moves around Pyongyang, the ROK Embassy in China said on 28 April: "No such report has been accounted for and basically it is a report that cannot be confirmed." It also said: "It seems that the report that there were military moves in the Pyongyang area is related to recent rumors that Kim Il-song's health has deteriorated. According to the latest information, Kim Il-song's health is fine."

Official Downplays Reports

SK2904025593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0244 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—Reports of North Korean border guards firing into China and of massive military movements around Pyongyang deserved no keen attention, a South Korean government official well versed in North Korean affairs said Thursday.

"The incidents are not worth paying particular attention to," he said. "The cross-border firefight happened around one month ago and it has been confirmed that it had nothing to do with tensions between the two countries since North Korea announced its intention to leave the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

"In sum, it was merely the kind of incident that can happen at border guard posts anytime," the source said. He said he was yet to confirm whether there had been casualities.

He also downplayed the military movements around Pyongyang.

"As far as I know, the movements were part of commemorative events for the July 27 victory day," he said. The day has been an annual holiday since a truce was declared in the Korean war on July 27, 1953.

Japan's KYODO News Service and the WASHINGTON POST reported on Wednesday that North Korean border guards had opened fire toward China and killed several people recently. Other reports said that large-scale military movements had been detected around Pyongyang.

PRC, DPRK Said To Deny Reports of 'Bloody Rift'

SK2904004693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0035 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 (YONHAP)—China and North Korea have denied reports of a bloody rift that allegedly claimed the lives of several Chinese, according to Japanese media dispatches from Beijing on Thursday.

"There has been no such incident," the daily YOMIURI SHIMBUN quoted a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying when asked about the reports that several Chinese were shot by North Korean soldiers near the border.

And the MAINICHI SHIMBUN quoted an official at the North Korean Embassy in Beijing reached by telephone as saying, "I've never heard of such an incident taking place. It's sheer fabrication."

Seoul To Send Group to UNDP Meeting in Pyongyang

SK2904073293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0616 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government decided Thursday to send a delegation to a Pyongyang meeting of the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) slated for May 5-10.

The government gave a nine-member delegation a green light to visit North Korea to attend the third meeting of the UNDP Program Management Committee [PMC] on developing areas near the Tumen River.

The delegation will be led by Kim Yong, director general III of the Economic Planning Board's International Policy Coordination Office. The PMC meeting will be accompanied by a working-level meeting.

"Despite cool ties between Seoul and Pyongyang due to North Korea's announced withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), the government decided to attend the UNDP meeting because it is a multilateral international meeting, not a private-level meeting to discuss economic cooperation between Seoul and Pyongyang," a National Unification Board spokesman said.

In addition to both Koreas, China, Japan, Russia and Mongolia will send delegations to the meeting.

NSP Arrests Dissident Novelist Upon Return to South

SK2704115493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1051 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 27 (YONHAP)—The Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) arrested Hwang Sok-yong, a novelist who had been staying abroad after visiting North Korea in 1989, soon after he arrived at the Kimpo Airport from the United States around 4:40 p.m. Tuesday.

Hwang was carried away by prosecution and NSP investigators after he was allowed to meet his two children and sister briefly at the airport.

"Mr. Hwang illegally visited North Korea many times while he was staying in Germany and the United States after he first visited Pyongyang on March 20, 1989 to meet Kim Il-song and other North Korean leaders in violation of the National Security Law that prohibits a person from escaping to a potential enemy country," an NSP official said.

On arrival at Kimpo aboard a Korean air plane, Hwang said he had resolved to return home because the country's political and social environment changed much from the past.

The NSP official said that while staying abroad, Hwang, together with a group of pro-Pyongyang overseas Korean residents, had formed the so-called "pan-National Alliance for the Unification of the Fatherland" and engaged in "pro-North Korean" activities as a spokesman of the alliance.

Students Demonstrate Near Kwangju American Center

SK2904071793 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0630 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Report From Kwangju]

[Text] Some 1,000 college students belonging to the Alliance of the General Student Councils of Kwangju-South Cholla Provincial Region staged a demonstration for about an hour near the American Center in Kwangju in Yangmin-tong, So-ku, Kwangju around 0730 calling for a U.S. apology in connection with the Miss Yun Kum-hui murder case. They also called for the abolition of the American Center in Kwangju.

When the police stopped the students from entering the American Center by firing teargas canisters, the demonstrating students confronted the police by throwing bottles filled with paint and stones. The students dispersed voluntarily after one hour.

'Sources': Summit With U.S. May Be Around 10 Jul

SK2904012593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0112 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Washington, April 29 (YONHAP)—A South Korea-U.S. summit may take place around July 10, after the Group of Seven summit conference in Tokyo, diplomatic sources said Wednesday.

U.S. President Bill Clinton will visit Tokyo on July 7-9 to attend the G-7 talks and is said to be discussing the possibility of a Seoul-Washington summit afterward.

The U.S. administration supported the democratization in Korea since President Kim Yong-sam took office and generally agreed that Clinton should visit Seoul on his way home from the G-7 talks, the sources said.

After the meeting better suited Washington rather than before because the American Independence Day is on July 4, they said, but added that a final decision had not been made yet.

White House Press Secretary Deedee Myers announced Clinton's visit to Tokyo on Wednesday, but avoided details when asked if he had plans to visit other countries.

She said that she couldn't say because there was still a great time left before July.

Clinton is expected to fly into Seoul either late on July 9 or early the next day and meet with Kim on July 10, if he decides to visit Korea.

Minister Meets With Traders Following U.S. Visit

SK2904010993 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Apr 93 p 8

[Text] Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Kim Chol-su yesterday painted a rosy picture for Korea-U.S. trade relations, saying America's doubts about Korea trade policies have been cleared to a large extent.

In a breakfast meeting with local traders at the Korea World Trade Center, Kim said he had tried hard to persuade American trade policy makers to soften their trade offensive against Korea during his recent visit to the U.S.

"Because trade between Seoul and Washington is balanced, it is irrational for the Clinton administration to apply similar trade pressures to Korea as done to Japan and China, which have been enjoying enormous trade surpluses with the U.S.," he said.

Kim told the meeting that the U.S. still remains discontent with Korea's measures in several areas. "U.S. Government officials were deeply concerned about what they claim is Korea's loose protection of intellectual property rights and the slow pace of financial market liberalization."

Kim said he faced strong demands from the American side that it should dispose of products illegally copied before 1987 within three months.

He said he stood aloof on the rice issue in talks with U.S. officials.

"I conveyed our strong position of not opening our rice market but the U.S. asked for Korea's cooperation in setting the agricultural negotiations in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks," Kim told the traders.

Deep-Sea Fishing Issue To Be Discussed With Japan

SK2904021393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0106 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Japan discuss the recent multilateral controversy over deep-sea fishing and the ratification of Law of the Sea in working-level talks Friday, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

Sin Hyo-hun, director-general of the Treaties Bureau, will meet with his Japanese counterpart, Minoru Damba, in Seoul. The meeting will cover law of the sea ratification, a follow-up to the Rio declaration, deep-sea fishing regulations and bilateral issues, officials said.

Japan is yet to declare the western limit of its economic zone and Korea has not yet defined any limits. The decisions will be influenced by the Law of the Sea.

The two countries will also talk about recent global restrictions in deep-sea fishing under the guise of marine resource protection, officials said.

Five Air Force Generals Arrested on Graft Charges

SK2904112693 Seoul YONHAP in English 1045 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—Five Air Force brig. generals were arrested and put into an Air Force stockade in Seoul on Thursday on charges of bribery.

The five were suspected of having given bribes ranging from 3 million won to 30 million won to retired Air Force Gen. Chong Yong-hu when he was Air Force chief of stafff in 1990 in return for their promotion.

The brig. generals arrested were Pak Chong-son, commander of the Eighth Fighter Wing; Choe Song-yol, commander of the 11th Fighter Wing; Cha Chong-yol, commander of the Third Training Wing; Yi U-tok, special assistant to the Air Force chief of staff; and Yi Kil-hwan, commander of the 16th Fighter Wing.

The military prosecutor's division of the Defense Ministry, which executed the arrest, also questioned about 10 other Air Force officers alleged to have given money to Chong Yong-hu.

The prosecutor's division is expected to turn the case of Chong and two other retired Air Force generals known to have bribed Chong over to the supreme public prosecutor's office shortly for legal actions against them.

Officials To Continue With Fighter Project

SK2704051693 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 27 Apr 93

[Received via Chollian database; no page number given]

[Text] Since people's suspicions have been raised over the selection of the type of next generation fighters for the Korean Fighters Project [KFP], the issue of whether or not the KFP will be pushed ahead as planned attracts people's attention.

At present, 27 ROK business groups, including Samsung Aviation, the Korean Air and Daewoo Heavy Industry and their subcontractors, are participating in the KFP.

A relevant government official on 26 April said that "suspicions have recently been raised over selection of the type of next-generation fighters, but due to the fact that domestic aviation companies had already concluded a contract with U.S. General Dynamics—the manufacturer of the F-16—late last year for technological transfer, the KFP will be implemented as planned, with the establishment of assembly plants by domestic aviation companies.

Meanwhile, Samsung Aviation, the main contractor for the KFP, plans to produce various tools required for assembly production of fighters on a full scale, and to complete construction of a plant in Sachon, South Kyongsang Province, by July this year for assembly production of F-16 fighters.

Samsung's sale of KFP-related materials amounted to 70 billion won last year. However, it predicts that the sales amount will increase to 170 billion won this year when the Sachon plant is completed and tools are installed there.

Six Navy Officers Arrested in Pay-for-Promotion Scandal

SK2804085093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0605 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 28 (YONHAP)—Six senior Marine Corps and Navy officers were arrested by the prosecution division of the Defense Ministry Wednesday in a money-for-promotion scandal and will be court martialed.

They are Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Yi Chae-ton and naval officers Commodore Yi Eui-kun, Capt. So In-kyo, Capt. Chae Yong-su, Capt. Yi Chae-tuk and Capt. Yu Chun-sik.

The Supreme Public Prosecutor's office, which is investigating former Chief of Naval Operations Kim Chong-ho, and former Marine Corps Commandant, Cho Ki-yop, on suspicion of accepting bribes while in active service, had passed the names of military officers involved in the graft scandal to the Defense Ministry.

The military prosecution booked five other senior officers without detention, including marine Brig. Gen. Pae Song-ki and Brig. Gen. Chong Il-chol, because their bribes were only between 1 million and 5 million won (1,250-6,250 U.S. dollars).

According to the military prosecution, Gen. Yi gave former commandant Cho 60 million won in late 1989 and the five Navy officers gave Navy chief Kim between 15 and 100 million won each.

Ruling Party Chairman Addresses National Assembly

SK2904100593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0811 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—Ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] chairman Kim Chong-pil told the National Assembly on Thursday that the DLP was determined to accomplish political reforms by all means to open an era of new politics.

In a speech to the 161st Special Assembly session in his capacity as a DLP leader, Kim said, "We will reform politics without fail as a starting point for all reforms."

The DLP, he said, would strive to bring "fundamental reforms" to politics-related laws like the presidential and National Assembly election laws, political party law and political fund law to ensure clean elections costing no money.

The ruling party would, most of all, put an end to collusion between politicians and businesses to restore morality to, and eradicate corruption in, politics.

He called for confrontation between the parties in parliament to be replaced by a partnership for reform, urging the opposition to become a "strong and reasonable" critic of the government and its party.

The DLP leader, in what seemed to be a conciliatory gesture toward the opposition Democratic Party [DP], praised Kim Tae-chung, former leader and presidential candidate of the DP, for his life-long struggle for democracy.

"As a man who sacrificed himself for the development of democracy, he (Kim Tae-chung) cannot be called pro-communist. Likewise, our counterpart, the DP, can neither be pro-communist," he said.

The ruling party has been pressed by the DP to offer a public apology for calling Kim and his party "left-leaning" during the presidential election last December.

The Democratic Party, meanwhile, said it accepted Kim Chong-pil's remarks on Kim Tae-chung and the party as an official apology, thus ending the matter.

On revising the controversial national security law, Kim acknowledged practical difficulties in the ruling party's pushing for it unilaterally. He said said the DLP would positively embrace and consider opinions from the DP and dissident groups regarding the matter.

Kim further said the ruling camp would take steps to have the Kwangju civil uprising recognized as a democratization movement.

He also said every endeavor would be made to make the military beloved and trusted through reforms and depoliticization.

The ruling party is firmly determined to introduce a system to enforce real names in all financial transactions on the basis of a plan that is to be designed to minimize its impact on the economy.

He said, "we will protect our rice market by all means." He stressed that measures would be taken to help the rural economy become internationally competitive.

Poll Finds 90 Percent Support for Kim Yong-sam's Reforms

SK2404021893 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 17 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] The majority in our country thinks that President Kim Yong-sam is properly carrying out his reform policy, and that the scale of reform is broader than expected.

Many people believe, however, that the speed of reform is too fast, and that the government needs to establish a legal system to back the reform.

Concerning the method of dealing with lawmakers who caused trouble in society because of their financial disclosure, the people are much more dissatisfied with the opposition party than they are with the ruling party.

CHOSON ILBO and Korea Gallup Research polled the public by telephone on 16 April.

On the question "Do you think that President Kim Yong-sam is properly carrying out his reform policy since he took in office, or has he misled it?", 90.0 pecent of the respondents say "he is properly carrying out his reform policy;" 2.9 percent say "he is misleading it;" 4.7 percent say "he is carrying it out as expected;" and 2.4 percent say "I don't know."

On the question "Do you think that the scale of the Kim Yong-sam government's reform is broader, or narrower than expected?", 66.1 percent of the respondents say "the scale of his reform policy is broader than expected;" 16.2 percent say "it is very narrow;" 10.9 percent say "it is adequate;" and 6.7 percent say "I don't know."

Regarding the speed of the Kim Yong-sam government's reform policy, 52.8 percent of the respondents say "the speed of his reform policy is fast;" 6.5 percent say "it is slow;" 37.0 percent say "it is normal;" and 3.7 percent say "I don't know."

On the question "Do you think that the Kim Yong-sam government can carry out this reform policy without change, or should it establish a legal system to back the reform?", 37.0 percent of the respondents say "the reform must be carried out without change;" 54.1 percent say "it should be carried out based on the legal system;" and 9.0 percent say "I don't know."

On the question "How do you think the new government's reform policy will affect our economy?", 75.0 percent of the respondents say "it will have a good impact on our country economy;" 5.5 percent say "bad impact;" 19.5 percent say "I don't know." It seems, therefore, that many people believe his reform policy will contribute to economic development. Also, regarding the resignation of five lawmakers from their parliamentary seats and from the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], because of financial disclosure, 56.4 percent of the respondents say "they are satisfied with it;" 45.5 percent say "they are dissatisfied with it;" and 25.0 percent say "I don't know."

Regarding the opposition Democratic Party's step against its lawmakers because of their financial disclosure, 29.5 percent of the respondents say "they are satisfied" and 45.5 percent say "they are dissatisfied."

This telephone survey polled 513 men and women over 20 years of age throughout the country, excluding Cheju island. 253 men and 260 women were randomly selected from the telephone directory. 161 persons are in their twenties; 137 persons in their thirties; 87 persons in their forties; and 128 persons over fifty.

131 persons were selected from Seoul; 94 persons from Kyonggi Province; 18 persons from Kangwon Province; 48 persons from Chungchong Provinces; 61 persons from Cholla Provinces; 59 persons from North Kyongsang Province; and 101 persons from South Kyongsang Province. The margin of an error is five percent.

Kim Tae-chung Reaffirms Decision To Leave Politics

SK2804032393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0222 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Brussels, April 28 (YONHAP)—Former opposition leader Kim Tae-chung reaffirmed Tuesday that he would stay out of politics even after he returned home.

Kim said he would return to Seoul in late June as planned "regardless of the domestic political situation" and write about EC integration and German unification.

In a meeting with a group of Korean residents here, Kim said, "I know some rumors exist on my future course of action, but I have left the political arena and am just an ordinary citizen."

Kim came here Monday morning to meet European Community officials and collect materials on EC integration. He was accompanied by his wife and two aides.

Kim met with the European-side members of the South Korea-Europe parliamentarian friendship association, and was briefed on the situation of Korean industry in Europe by officials of the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) and Korea Industrial Research Institute (KIRI) on Tuesday.

He had a lengthy discussion with EC commissioner for external relations and commercial policy Leon Brittan on the economic integration of European countries.

Kim was to leave Brussels for Paris on Wednesday.

Posco Recognized as World's 2d Largest Steelmaker

SK2904075493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0635 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—Pohang Iron and Steel Co. (POSCO) of South Korea was recognized as the world's No. 2 steelmaker by the International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI) last week and given three votes on the council, a POSCO spokesman Thursday.

POSCO was promoted from two votes and snatched second rank from Usinor-Sacilor Co. of France during the two-day IISI special council in Prague on April 18-19 because it produced more than 20 million tons of steel last year, he said.

Other than POSCO, only Nippon Steel Corp. has the right to case three votes on the Brussels-based council.

POSCO turned out 20.01 million tons of steel last year, while Usinor-Sacilor had a total output of 21.97 million tons but was dropped to two votes because just 16.5 million tons were made in France. The rest came from steel mills in Germany and the United States.

Korea now holds five of IISI's 71 votes as Inchon Iron and Steel Co. has one and another is shared by Kangwon Industries Co., Dongkuk Steel Mill, Korea Heavy Industry and Construction Co., and Sammi Steel Co.

Some 169 companies and organizations from 44 countries are IISI members.

* Firms 'Secretly Supplying' Goods to DPRK

932C0109A Seoul SISA JOURNAL in Korean 25 Mar 93 pp 6-8

[By reporter Nam Yu-chol]

[Text] At a time North Korea is suffering from severe oil and food shortages, it has been disclosed that *chaebol* [conglomerates] in this country have been secretly supplying Pyongyang with these materials.

The JOURNAL has confirmed through sources here well-informed of North Korean affairs that certain *chaebol* groups have been shipping oil and food to North Korea on a virtually regular basis through a triangular trade. Trading with North Korea in strategic goods, including oil and food, is strictly prohibited by the government. However, such indirect trade via third-country brokers is in fact difficult to track down. Our government, it seems, has been unable to catch details of this type of trade.

In view of the acute international tension from North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], the United States, it appears, will soon make an issue of this indirect trade involving ROK business groups.

A U.S. diplomat stationed in Seoul, stating his position, said that "if Korean businesses should continue to supply North Korea with those strategic goods, the United States will have no alternative but make a diplomatic issue of it. I doubt that the Korean Government is fully aware of facts of this trade," he added. According to this informed source, "the United States has heretofore refrained as much as possible from being diplomatically involved in North-South Korean trade issues lest it should be misperceived as 'interfering in the unification of the Korean Peninsula.'"

A reliable informed source in Singapore has disclosed that "since last year, two South Korean trading houses belonging to *chaebol* groups have been supplying oil to North Korea on a regular basis." This is a well-known fact to oil brokers in Singapore, he said in an international telephone interview, adding that "one of them began its shipments early last year and the other in the latter of that year." This source familiar with oil transactions involving North Korea also said that "the oil thus traded appears to reach North Korea via China but the exact quantities are unknown."

An informed U.S. diplomatic source said, on condition of anonymity, that "I know that Indonesia-produced rice was shipped to North Korea on several occasions by an ROK *chaebol* group." For him, the oil shipments to North Korea by ROK firms were no surprise either, he noted. With regard to the dates of the rice shipments, the same source only said that they were sometime last year, declining further comment on that point. In connection with disclosures of a "U.S. wheat export to North Korea" in April last year that, it seemed, gave Seoul a shock, he revealed to SISA JOURNAL for the first time that "the parties actually involved in the transaction were *chaebol* groups of the ROK."

An American scholar well versed in North Korean affairs disclosed, in a recent international telephone conversation with this reporter, that "Vietnam-produced rice was exported to North Korea by an ROK business group on several occasions." He said that he had obtained the information directly from an American "high intelligence official." According to him, "an ROK firm paid for the rice, although the paper did not show it as one of the contracting parties."

An official of the National Unification Board [NUB] made clear that "if the alleged strategic goods trade is found true, it should be a matter of extremely grave national concern." However, we have no positive law in effect prohibiting such transactions with North Korea; according to him, there is no way under the present domestic laws to control indirect trade conducted through third-country brokers. As for the Law of North-South Exchange and Cooperation, it merely specifies the basic principle that North Korea is given equal treatment with other trade partners.

"Legally speaking," the same official emphasized, "there is no positive law applicable to these cases except the National Security Law. But they should not be examined only from a legal point of view? The point is that supplying North Korea with those strategic goods clearly runs counter to government policy."

The U.S. diplomat in Seoul asked, "If a strategic item like oil gets to North Korea, what will it be used for?" He then pointed out that the provisions for North Korean trade in the ROK laws and regulations are typical with their loopholes. In the case of the United States, which maintains a trade embargo on North Korea, it has the positive law unequivocally prohibiting all types of trade with North Korea. It forbids its citizens (including permanent alien residents) to participate in any form of transactions with North Korea including acts of brokerage and offering good offices and assistance, not to mention direct trade. "If a person should benefit from trading with North Korea in whatever form, it directly constitutes a violation of the law," he noted.

Officials in charge of North Korean trade at ROK firms would say that North Korea has been "imploringly" asking them for oil and food shipments since last year. A trading house official said: "For North Korea today, oil is something like a narcotic. They would vow to do anything later if only they are given oil now. Oil accounts for 90% of the materials they are seeking now." This official, denying his firm's involvement in the oil trade, said that it is quite possible that other companies supplied oil in an effort to secure favorable investment conditions in case North-South economic cooperation programs get going. Where there is a will, there are so many ways of doing it without being detected by the government, he said, adding that North Korean requests for oil keep coming to his company, too, with no letup.

ROK's big businesses trading with North Korea have been in keen competition with one another for a "place in the queue" in preparation for the time full-scale investments in North Korea begin. An interested source said that "while superficially it is 'North-South economic cooperation,' the fact is that it is our side that is unconditionally supplying materials to North Korea." Through their transactions, ROK businesses have been giving North Korea considerably large amounts of "cash bribe" in the name of "credit in advance." This sort of competition among businesses is intensifying as the trend. Needless to say, NUB statistics do now show such "invisible economic cooperation."

Since the suspension last year of oil supplies by Russia and China, which had been its main providers, North Korea has been suffering from oil shortages so dire that it even posed a threat to the leadership system. According to informed sources in Singapore, the oil crunch has become so severe that North Korea is left "unable to operate its military forces" any more. An expert in Singapore disclosed that besides the two oil refineries the existence of which had been known to foreign observers, North Korea has been operating another two oil refineries exclusively for military purposes. He then revealed to SISA JOURNAL for the first time the locations of the latter two as Unsan north of Pyongyang and Seson in North Hamgyong Province near the border. During the past year, he noted, the small 10,000-barrels-a-day facilities have largely been laid idle. Judging from these facts, Pyongyang's oil stocks for emergencies could possibly be running short now, he observed. (See SISA JOURNAL No. 136, "North Korea's Energy Panic, Spurred-on Oil Field Development"; No. 166, "North Korea's Oil Crisis Spurring Nuclear Weapons Development"; No. 170 and No. 171, "Energy Crisis Brings a 'Team Spirit' Cold Wave to North Korea")

The North Korean military established two firms, the Yonghansan Trading Company and the Maebong Trading Company, and are directly operating them, seemingly to procure the required oil from ROK firms through them. The unexpected replacement of Yon Hyong-muk as premier on 11 December last year was closely related to his failure to resolve the oil crisis. According to information gathered by officials of big business groups here with interests in North Korean relations, Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon last year made an unsuccessful personal visit to Iran on the oil issue. In 1988 alone, 35% of North Korea's total oil import came from Iran. But Iran, seeing no need to buy arms from North Korea with the termination of the Iran-Iraq War, reportedly turned down the North Korean request for oil.

North Korea's industrial facilities are mostly built in such a way that they can be run with coal—which North Korea can supply on its own—as the energy source. Since the military accounts for 70% of its total oil consumption, an "oil crisis" in North Korea precisely means a "crisis of the military." The reason North Korea has been trying to secure oil by hook or by crook since last year is that oil shortage spells the "incapacitation of military forces." It seems that the reason the United States—which is fully aware of this situation—persisted in resuming the Team Spirit exercise this year is closely related to the oil crunch in North Korea.

A Team Spirit exercise conducted in the South would drive North Korea to mount an equally large-scale military maneuver for itself. It appeared that the United States chose the Team Spirit exercise as the best way to pressure North Korea into accepting the international inspections of its nuclear facilities. A foreign expert has observed that in doing so, the United States—in consideration of a possible future sanction against North Korea—intended to determine the limits of its oil supply capacity and see that it uses up its remaining oil stocks.

Over the Team Spirit exercise thus resumed this year, North Korea launched a denunciation campaign with greater intensify than ever. Also, for its withdrawal from the NPT, it cited the Team Spirit as the most direct reason. In the past, North Korea had used the tactic of countering by launching a military maneuver of a similar scale of its own. This year, however, it only declared a semiwar state, showing no further military movement.

The "worst oil crisis in history" hitting North Korea explains many of Pyongyang's moves since last year. It could be that North Korea is trying to use its withdrawal from the NPT as the final trump card in a showdown against the pressures to "incapacitate its military forces" being applied through, among other things, the Team Spirit exercise. In this context, it is understandable that THE NEW YORK TIMES urged the U.S. Government to, first of all, call off the exercise for now. Our government and specialists on North Korean affairs, however, who have been totally and consistently indifferent to North Korea's oil crisis, failed to produce a valid analysis of its strategic implications.

* Russian Scientists 'Flock' to Seoul by Invitation

932C0105A Seoul SIN TONG-A in Korean Apr 93 pp 466-471

[By correspondent Kim Sung-ho]

[Text] It was on 7 February this year that (Novokosinova), 57-year-old unit chief of the Chemistry and Physics Research Center under the Moscow Academy of Sciences, arrived in our country at the invitation of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST). She is an authority in research into "ultra high polymer polyethelene plastic." During his one-month stay, she "initiated" Korean scientists into some of the advanced technologies of the former Soviet Union.

Ultra high polymer plastic, with a several times heavier molecular weight than ordinary plastic, is an advanced material superb in harness and abrasion-resistance. This material, which the ROK is yet to develop, can be used as material for shutting out electromagnetic waves or radiation. When farm machines and drills are coated with it, their life span can be prolonged almost permanently.

Her one-month pay disbursed by the KAIST was $1,450 (plus $50 per diem). This amount is about the same as the monthly salary for Korean senior researchers, but it is a "whopping sum" beyond imagination when compared with the monthly salary of $15 she received as unit chief of her Moscow research institute. She said, "Naturally, many of my Russian research colleagues wish to come to Korea," adding, "this money will go a long way toward maintaining our research institute in Moscow."

Dr. (Telavanesian), 45-year-old unit chief of the Moscow Physiology Research Center, arrived in the ROK on 12 February at the invitation of the KAIST Genetic Engineering Institute. He is a CIS authority in enzyme and molecular genetic engineering. He came under a two-month contract to initiate Korean scientists into the achievements of the former Soviet Union in genetic engineering.

Previously, (Bevlov), department director of the Russian MPO (Biotechnologia), was in Korea to provide technological counselling at the ROK Genetic Engineering Institute. Dr. (Televanesian) is the third Russian scientists to visit Korea at the invitation of the Genetic Engineering Institute because it needs his help in genetic engineering research into cardiac thrombosis inhibiting agents, a research subject specified in our G7 development program. His monthly recompense is $1500, borne entirely by the Genetic Engineering Institute.

More than 400 scientists from the former Soviet Union visited our country in the past two years, and 95 of them stayed for more than a month last year. This visiting rush of CIS scientists is expected to accelerate this year. According to officials of the Ministry of Science and Technology, as many as 150 CIS scientists will be officially invited to stay here for a relatively long period of two to three months, in addition to visitors for a shorter period of stay.

Reportedly, over 30 of them are already in our country working in government-financed research institutes and Samsung Aerospace Industries (20 persons). Under a contract with Russian SDC Turbine, Samsung Aerospace Industries had brought in 20 Russian scientists and engineers by last March, including (Drivianko), president of SDC Turbine, for the development of a commercial gas turbine. President (Drivianko) and others are scheduled to stay until the middle of 1994.

The list of the CIS scientists who will enter our country in the future is not available because the Ministry of Science and Technology and the firms ne concerned are tight-lipped, adamantly refusing to divulge their names.

In addition to the scheduled visits by CIS scientists, the third ROK-Russian science ministers conference will be held in Seoul at some time in the first part of 1993, and a Russian advanced technology exhibition (with 51 entries) is scheduled to open in Seoul in late May. Last February the Russian Machine Industry Commission proposed through the Korean Trade Promotion Corporation (KOTRA) Moscow Trade Center to make technology transfer and join in the joint production of three items and in joint development projects in eight specific fields, including automobiles, measuring instruments, construction equipment, tractors, and chemical equipment. This is expected to spur private-level science and technology exchange.

Accordingly, in the future CIS scientists visiting our country are expected to be numbered by the hundreds, including those who will pay a short visit for feasibility studies on joint cooperation projects, consultations, and seminars.

The visiting rush of CIS scientists and technical experts went into high gear beginning in the first half of 1992. Through the two rounds of meetings between the ROK and Russian ministers of science technology held in 1991 and 1992, respectively, following the conclusion of the ROK-Russian scientific and technological cooperation agreement in December 1990, the two countries agreed to carry out 74 joint scientific and technical cooperation projects. Prompted by the signing of this agreement, CIS scientists began to flock into our country.

It was in March 1992 that a CIS scientist was invited to a Korean research institute for the first time. Dr. (Obchinikov), an authority on "nonconductive plastic" (at the Chemistry and Physics Research Institute under the Russian Academy of Sciences), was the first Russian ever employed by the Seoul University Physics and Chemistry Research Institute. With his arrival as a momentum, the floodgate opened for the inflow of brains of the former Soviet Union into the rok. Last year alone a total of 95 CIS scientists stayed in our country for more than two months for the promotion of scientific and technological cooperation projects. The breakdown is: 67 in government-financed research organizations, 11 in universities, and 17 in private firms.

The visiting rush of CIS scientists accelerated as many scientific and technological brains of the CIS wanted to "escape" their country because they were suffering from the dire shortage of research funding and the difficult living condition in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union. By taking advantage of their government's loose exit controls, CIS scientists began to flock into capitalist countries where they would be assured of higher pay. Some of them preferred the ROK as their destination. In fact, in 1990 alone, prior to the disintegration of the Soviet Union, as many as 70,000 managed to leave the Soviet Union for foreign countries, including the United States and Third World countries, by taking advantage of the confusion in the USSR Government. This resulted in a massive "exodus" of scientific brains from the former Soviet Union. In this connection, a Korea-born scientist named "K" (42) in Moscow said, "The flux of scientists of the former Soviet Union leaving for overseas is similar to the flux of Koreans vying with each other to enter the Middle East when the Mid-East boom was at its height in the seventies."

The CIS Government, including the Russian Government, is virtually assuming an indifferent attitude to this phenomenon of brain drain. Some say that the Russian Government appears to be hoping to ease its foreign currency shortage as much as possible with the dollars earned by Russian scientists overseas. For our country, which is unable to find a way out of the difficulty posed by the formidable scientific and technological barriers raised by advanced countries, the drain of Russian scientific brains offers the best chance to learn advanced science and technology. Dr. Chong Hyon-chin of the KAIST, (who is the director of the Center for ROK-Russia Scientific and Technological Cooperation, said, "In the case of Russia, the Russian Government has adopted the policy of selling the sciences and technologies of the former Soviet Union openly as a means of recovering the Russian economy." "Frankly speaking," he added, "unless we introduce original Russian technologies, it will be difficult for us to overcome the woes of being a technically underdeveloped country, the woes resulting from the Japanese and U.S. refusal to transfer technology and from their high-tech barriers."

CIS scientists enter our country through three channels on the whole. The first channel refers to the cases of those who enter our country to participate in joint development tasks under the ROK-Russia scientific and technological agreement. Some enter to transfer technologies on 74 high-tech items agreed upon by the ROK and Russian ministers of science and technology. Others enter to participate in the 33 private-level research tasks that have been undertaken since 1991 in the fields of mechanical engineering, materials science, and aircraft and nuclear technologies, (including two joint research tasks with Byelorussia and Ukraine).

The second channel refers to the cases of those CIS scientists who come to our country to work at universities and government-financed research institutes for no more than three months under the ROK-Russia personnel exchange program, which is under the supervision of the Center for ROK-Russia Scientific and Technological Cooperation attached to the KAIST. The third channel refers to the cases of those who enter at the invitation of private enterprises or organizations with the approval of our government.

Among CIS scientists entering our country, those in the mechanical engineering and new materials research fields number the most with 80 percent. Scientists in aerospace and physics also account for a considerable proportion. Needless to say, this is because the advanced science and technology of the former Soviet Union is centered on those fields. Most of scientists in these fields have a research experience of 10 years or more. Quite a few of them are world-class authorities. Some of them are of Korean decent, although their number is very small.

The monthly pay for CIS scientists working in our country ranges from $1,000 to $2,000, not counting the air fare and room and board. In the case of Dr. (Georgy), a 56-year-old scientist of Korean ancestry who was employed by Samsung Electronics in April 1992 under a one-year contract for photoelectron research, his monthly pay reportedly was about $2,000 at the beginning, although he is the highest Russian authority in this field. Compared with the monthly salary of 5,000 to 10,000 rubles (equivalent to 10 to 15 dollars) for research personnel with a doctor's degree in Russia, his pay in Korea is more than 100 times what he gets in Russia, but it is about the same amount a Korean senior research fellow or a section chief of a private firm receives each month. For our research organizations and companies, this means that they learn advanced technologies with a "cheap tuition fee." According to a KAIST research member, visiting Russian scientists sleep in the rooms provided for foreigners by their host research institutes or companies and eat in the same dining halls of these institutes and companies with their Korean colleagues. The Russian scientists in Korea pay practically nothing for their room and board.

The KAIST, with its Halla Center for Scientific and Technological Cooperation in its annex, had 23 Russian scientists working for it last year, the largest number among all research organizations.

Senior Research Fellow (Kabelashivily) of the Moscow Mechanical Physics Institute (MEPhI), who visited our country at the invitation of Dr. Kim Sun-kwang of the KAIST, introduced Russian technology related to laser plasma and an ion injection system. On the other hand, (Udobenko), a research member of (Badin) Steel Research Center), entered our country at the invitation of Dr. Sin Myong-chol of the Light-Weight Alloy Research Center. (Udobenko) became the world's first scientist to develop in 1989 an alloy which is superior to wood in terms of echo and vibration attenuation rates. He is a world-renowned authority in this field.

Among the CIS scientists who entered our country in the latter half of 1992 were: (Gregoryev) of the High Molecular Metal Research Institute, who arrived to participate in the IBM computer software modification project at the invitation of Dr. An Hyo-sok; (Denisov) of the Saturn Super Conductivity Research Center, who came to introduce super conductivity application technology; (Vitaly Bosi) of SPA [expansion unknown], a microwave expert; and (Kovalenko), a research member of the (Semyakin) Organic Chemistry Research Center, who introduced doping technology.

Chang Hak-su (60), a scientist of Korean decent and a member of Leningrad Academy of Sciences, is also a brain of the former Soviet Union brought in by the KAIST. He is the director of Petersburg Ecology Research Center. He arrived in our country in May 1992. He, an authority in mathematical physics and electronic measurement, is acting as an advisor on environmental pollution measuring technology for the KAIST environmental research group.

In the past, nine CIS scientists including (Lipin), a unit chief of the Russian Central Aeronautics Institute (TsAGI), worked at our Space and Aeronautics Institute. (Lipin), chief of the Russian team which developed the software system named "Argon" used in MIG designing, provided assistance in installing this system and training our personnel in technical know-how related to it.

The United States refused to sell "Argon" even for hundreds of thousands of dollars, but we obtained it from Russia for $57,000. The Space and Aeronautics Institute plans to invite scientists of the Russian Central Aeronautics Institute again in April to learn more about the upgraded version of Argon and jointly design a "small-size integrated airplane." In addition, the ROK institute also plans to purchase several of the hundreds of other software developed by the Russian institute.

Three or four Russian scientists came to Korea at the invitation of our Atomic Research Institute. They include: (Kuseba), female chief of the ion injection research group at the nuclear research department of the (Kruchatov) Institute; and (Vladimirovich) of the same department. The ion injection technology is a surface processing technology by which a metal is irradiated with high-energy treated titanium or chrome to increase its hardness without changing its properties. The group headed by Dr. Choe Pyong-ho of the Atomic Research Institute was initiated into this technology, which is in the limelight of military and aerospace technologies. Mirae Sanggong recently succeeded in producing products by using this technology.

(Dlon Popel) of the Energy Technology Institute and (Silain) of the Research Institute for High Heat Processing are experts in solar and other alternative energy. (Alexey Choe) of the (Iskra) Kirghiz Research Institute), who is the chairman of the Korean-Russian Science and Technology Association, also stayed in our country as an adviser in energy-related technology.

In addition, the following mid-standing Russian scientists came to Korea at the invitation of their respective Korean sponsors: Dr. (Bevlov), invited by the Genetic Engineering Research Institute; (Onkonov) of the General Physics Institute, invited by the Mechanical Research Institute; (Dlon Barifodov) of the Russian Federal Electric Bulb Research Institute, invited by the Electric Research Institute; and (Loxin) of the (Paton) Welding Research Center), invited by the Maritime Technology Institute.

In 1992 Samsung General Technology Institute hired (Georgy Pak), an authority on photoelectron, and (Androvich), a computer graphics expert of the Moscow Academy of Sciences, as regular employees. In addition, 10 or more other CIS scientists of senior grades are still staying in Korea at the invitation of Samsung. Daewoo Heavy Industries also brought in 10 or more CIS scientists to join in the development of an unmanned and a light-weight helicopter for agricultural use.

In the opinion of our scientists, the joint research tasks participated in by these CIS scientists have proved quite successful. Of the 20 research and development projects undertaken in 1991, 10 or more turned out trial products, including: a "high-performance filter" for automobile engines; "fine ceramics for industrial use"; and an "engine fuel feeding device for dual use of natural gas and diesel oil." These prototypes are expected to be commercialized in 1993. During the course of these researches, applications for six patents—four domestic and two international—were filed.

Among the joint research projects which have turned out trial products, the development of the "engine fuel feeding device for dual use of natural gas and diesel" represents an example of the successful transfer of CIS high-tech to our small and medium businesses. This technology, which is in the process of being commercialized under technological cooperation between (Nami Motors) of Russia and Changwon Carburetor Ind., is a kind of "clean fuel" feeding device capable of reducing the use of diesel oil by 20 percent by substituting natural gas for that much diesel. For the development of this device, four Russian engineers, including Dr. (Telmvitichan) in charge of diesel parts at (Nami Motors), came to Korea. Currently, (Nami Motors) is manufacturing a sample device adapted to the medium-size truck model of Kia Motors. The investment from the Korean side totals 460 million won including the government's contribution.

The former Soviet Union has more than 5,100 science institutions with a total of over 1.5 million scientists. A world of difference compared with the 10,000 personnel working in our government-financed research institutes! Russian scientists are at the top of the world with U.S. and Japanese scientists in the materials, energy, metal, and aerospace research fields. Naturally, our appraisal of the roles played by scientific and technological brains of the former Soviet Union cannot but be positive. What is more, the attitude of the Russian scientists working in our country by invitation is very sincere.

Dr. Yi Sang-ki of the Genetic Engineering Institute had this to say about their work attitude: "It may be because they have not yet been spoiled by the capitalist way of looking out for number one that it is quite apparent from their attitude that Russian scientists are trying hard to transfer Russian technical know-how to the utmost of their knowledge, without trying to hide anything."

Nevertheless there are some problems related to bringing in CIS scientists. A Ministry of Science and Technology official made this comment: "Russian science and technology is inapplicable to industrialization in many cases because it has developed with emphasis on the defense industry. Accordingly, it is difficult to introduce Russian technology immediately in production sites because in most cases, it is at the level of laboratory technology void of experience in market-oriented production." Our officials who have experience in bringing in CIS scientists generally point out that even in cases of authoritative scientists in specific areas, they are often unsuitable to the requirements of our business enterprises concerned, and that most of them have lopsidedly concentrated on their specific fields for so many years that they do not know much about the related science and technology.

The lack of information regarding Russian scientists is another problem. Dr. Kim Tae-hun (42), who is in charge of the Office of ROK-CIS Personnel Exchange Office in Moscow, said: "Many Russian scientists wish to go to Korea. But in many case we do not know even here in Moscow whether they are the kinds of scientists we need." Dr. Kim is also the director of the Moscow field center for ROK-CIS scientific and technological cooperation. The Center for ROK-CIS Scientific and Technological Corporation, established in the KAIST under the ROK-USSR scientific and technological cooperation agreement in December 1990, has prepared a data base regarding 2,000 major Russian research institutes, 1,000 scientists, and 2,500 data on science and technology. But a data base of this scale is not enough to meet our needs.

Before the collapse of the Soviet Union, the science and technology sales firm named (Licensingtrog) had played the role of a contact point for technological transfer. But this firm is not functioning properly now.

Even in the CIS itself, there are not enough science and technology data base (DB); therefore, to search for the right scientists and engineers, it is necessary to directly visit field research institutions. This difficulty is another problem in luring CIS scientific brains into our country. A Ministry of Science and Technology source said, "the CIS is a merchant who wants to sell Russian science and technology and defense industry, but who does not know how to display his wares in such a way as to attract the eyes of his customers."

Chong Hyong-chin, director of the Center for ROK-Russia Scientific and Technological Cooperation, made this forecast: "Advanced countries such as the United States and Japan have serious misgivings about the outflow of the high technology of the former Soviet Union, particularly its military, aerospace, and nuclear energy technologies. It will be difficult to introduce CIS science and technology at such a low cost as is prevailing now the moment the CIS has consolidated its internal structure." He stressed that the next two to three years will be the most favorable period for us to learn the science and technology of the former Soviet Union.

Advanced countries such as the United States, Japan, and the EC established the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) in Moscow in November 1992, and through it have been controlling the outflow of Russian nuclear science and technology. More recently, when a Moscow dispatch reported the 1993 ROK plan for introduction of CIS scientists, the U. S. and Japanese Embassies nervously asked our government whether it could confirm the names of the CIS scientists on the invitation list.

As our research institutes bring in more and more CIS scientific brains, some of these scientists are demanding an exorbitantly high "recompense." Particularly, there are many such cases among CIS scientists who are proficient in English. As they become aware of the international market prices of the science and technology they possess, they are increasing demanding that "you buy our knowledge by paying its due price." Meanwhile, there have begun to emerge "brokers" who demand a commission for finding suitable scientists and technical experts.

On the other hand, Director Chong noted the budgetary problem as follows: "The cost of accommodating Russian scientists brought in under the personnel exchange program is uniformly determined. Moreover, we are trying to bring in more scientists than envisaged under the limited budge of 2 billion won. This causes difficulty in bringing in high-caliber scientists."

Some of our concerned officials are voicing this opinion: "It is alright to bring in outstanding CIS scientists to our country, but it will be more productive for our scientists to go to the CIS." This is to say that learning advance science and technology through hands-on observation and training is more "effectual." At present the Ministry of Science and Technology plans to dispatch about 50 scientists to the CIS this year.

Unlike credit or economic assistance to the former Soviet Union with an uncertain prospect for recovering the principle, introducing CIS scientists constitutes a "fruitful deal" in which the principal is immediately recoverable.

As of now, learning the key technologies of the former Soviet Union is the most effective alternative to leaping over the U.S. and Japanese technological barriers. In this connection, Yun Tae-sang, a Ministry of Science and

Technology junior official, made this comment: "For an active introduction of brains from the former Soviet Union, it is urgent to simplify the current complicated entry procedures, beginning with that for issuing visas to citizens of the specifically designated states."

* Military Intelligence Structure Described

932C0107 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 17 Mar 93 p 23

[By correspondent Yi Chung-jae]

[Text] The Defense Intelligence Center has been even busier than usual as the tension was abruptly heightened in the Korean peninsula because of North Korea's announcement of its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). The Defense Intelligence Center, whose scope of operation has been upgraded as it assumed the control over military intelligence activities and organizations such as the defense confidential affairs, the intelligence affairs, and the 7235th Military Intelligence Detachment, has been hectically involved in the very front line assessment of the latest North Korean movement.

The Defense Intelligence Center, established in September of 1991 by a presidential decree, the Defense Intelligence Center Directive, is an agency under the direct control of the defense minister.

The agency, being in charge of overall military intelligence activities, performs a broad range of tasks concerning such matters as intelligence policy, intelligence estimates, and military security.

The functions of the agency defined in the Intelligence Center Directive include:

1. Consolidation and coordination of the defense intelligence policies and planning,

2. Production of estimates on international situations, and production and dissemination of the overseas intelligence,

3. Intelligence support for military diplomacy and the defense industry,

4. Assignment and operation of the military attaches stationed overseas,

5. Assistance to the foreign military attaches stationed in Korea and mutual intelligence exchange with foreign governments,

6. Preparation and coordination of the military intelligence budget,

7. Planning and coordination for military security, and

8. Coordination and control of operations of the military intelligence units.

The intelligence center, consisting of three directorates, engages in collection of the North Korean intelligence, collection of foreign intelligence, and counterintelligence for the internal security. As the activities of the agency are of highly sensitive nature and the place is in a state of constant alert, most of the tasks are under the strict security system and all activities, without an exception, are classified under the military classification code.

Since the inception of the Combined General Staff, in 1991, the intelligence center became under dual chains of command: one under the defense ministry and the other under the combined staff; specifically, matters concerning the military attaches and the military Armistice Commission are under the defense intelligence bureau, and those of the North Korean intelligence and the internal security are under the combined intelligence staff.

Despite its defined roles of control and coordination, the intelligence center has seen its original functions setback substantially as the level of defense confidential affairs heightened because of the (five present or former communist regimes).

The military intelligence officials consider it a blessing that the intelligence center has returned to its original scope of operation, reflecting on their frustration for the impeded development of military intelligence, for a duration in the past, by priority treatment of politico-military intelligence over pure military intelligence.

The directorship of the intelligence center requires the rank of lieutenant general; former directors include Choe Song-taek (11th graduating class of Military Academy), Yi Sang-Kyu (same), Yun Tae-kyun (13th graduating class of Military Academy), Yi Kyong-hui (14th graduating class of Military Academy), Yong Yong-il (16th graduating class of Military Academy) and Yi Yang-ho (5th graduating class of Air Force Academy); Lieutenant General Cho Kun-hae (9th graduating class of Air Force Academy) has been the current director since December of 1991.

* Outlook for 'Hanahoe' Army Society Viewed

932C0111A Seoul SISA JOURNAL in Korean 1 Apr 93 pp 40-43

[By correspondent Chong Hui-sang]

[Text] "That reminds us of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. The military leaders who had their remaining terms yet to serve were replaced one day without previous notice; this can only be explained as a purge."

This was the remark made by a high-ranking military officer commenting on the lightening quick replacement of Army Chief of Staff Kim Chin-yong and Commander So Wan-su of the Defense Intelligence Command [DIC] on 8 March. The first personnel action taken for the military hierarchy by President Kim since his inauguration was limited in scope. It nevertheless has caused tremendous repercussions in the military because the action is interpreted as a signal heralding a forthcoming major surgery on the 'Hanahoe'—a private society which has been entrenched in the core of the Army hierarchy these past 30 years. President Kim has removed what has been known as the two most influential figures among the Hanahoe members as if he were picking them out with a pair of tweezers.

Describing the nature and ramifications of the replacement of the two top military leaders, another military official said as follows:

"The outlook will become clearer when the lid is taken off the periodic personnel changes slated for June. But my interpretation is that by this personnel action President Kim sought to demonstrate that he is in control of the military and to express his resolute determination to carry out reform. But now that a scalpel has been applied to the heart of the Hanahoe, the action could prove a disadvantage to the president unless he follows it up with an intensive surgery on the whole of the Hanahoe in the forthcoming reform of the military."

According to the same official, if a radical surgery is not performed on the Hanahoe connection entrenched in key posts of the military, the Hanahoe might mount a "full-scale counterattack" should the new administration's resolve to carry on reform begin to falter.

Reportedly, President Kim firmed his decision to replace the key figures of the Hanahoe with lightening speed because of the "happening at the dinner party" of general officers on 5 March following the commencement ceremonies at the Military Academy. A source in the military summed up "the tale of the dinner party," which has been circulating openly among general officers, in these words:

"Following the Military Academy commencement ceremonies, then Army Chief of Staff Kim Chin-yong had a drinking party with general officers, mostly his old classmates of the 17th Military Academy graduating class. From what I hear, on this occasion the general expressed his strong dissatisfaction with President Kim's personnel management policy, particularly the appointment of the new defense minister. I hear that referring to the sudden promotion of then Vice Minister of Defense Kwon Yong-hae, a former major general, to the post of defense minister, Gen. Kim Chin-yong reportedly pointed out that this is a leap from the 11th to the first position in the protocol ranking, for the defense minister's post is usually given to a four-star general. This, the general reportedly said, is an intolerable personnel action that disregards the ranking system in the military. At the gathering he reportedly pointed out that rather had a civilian been appointed as defense minister, the appointment would have been acceptable; but the personnel change made in disregard of the peculiarities of the military is intolerable. I hear that the moment the substance of the discussion reached the president's ears, he decided to replace the Army chief of staff."

Most probably, the Hanahoe members feel a sense of crisis in view of the fact that new Defense MInister Kwon Yong-hae is not a Hanahoe member, an appointment unprecedented. But ordinary officers (including general officers) who are not Hanahoe members and who account for the bulk of military officers, fully support the appointment of the new defense minister and the downsizing of the [DIC].

The reason front-line field commanders particularly hail the reform of the DIC is that the DIC has given them a hard time every chance it got. The DIC places its members in every level of military units down to the company level in every frontline division to watch every move of the unit commanders. At each division, an officer with the rank of lieutenant colonel heads the DIC detachment. The DIC detachment builds its own barracks, the best among all the barracks in the division, and its members, living in this best barracks, lord it over the division personnel. That is why front-line commanders go so far as to say that when the best barracks built in front-line units for the DIC detachments are returned to the respective units, the downsizing of the DIC will have been accomplished.

Regarding the reshuffle of the military hierarchy, which in essence amounts to a purge, an officer who is a Military Academy graduate made this comment from the point of view of the inherent military duties:

"If the Hanahoe-affiliated generals had been faithful to their original duties as they should and thus earned the respect of all of the military, the recent purge may have been taken as a major humiliation for the military as a whole. But no soldier feels humiliation from the latest personnel action. In the past the military officers in responsible positions with no Hanahoe connection have suffered a far greater humiliation at the hands of the Hanahoe officers."

The same officer further said, "most of the active-duty professional soldiers think the latest personnel change alone is not enough." He declared that the condition under which the military cadres can unite in the true sense of the word will be created only when the reform of the military leads to a major surgery on the Hanahoe."

In the last analysis, President Kim has removed some of the military leaders who are known as influential members of the Hanahoe, in line with the priority placed on the reform of the military; and in doing so, he has come willy-nilly to confront the question of the harm done by the Hanahoe, a question that has been raised throughout the military. That is why overall, opinions inside and outside the military are watching closely the real state and moves of the Hanahoe.

It is traced back to the 12 December, 1979, incident that the Hanahoe, the cradle of so-called political officers, began to strut in the military. The Hanahoe, a secret society that was formed by some of the members of the 11th Military Academy graduating class when they were cadets. Following its inauguration, the Hanahoe had continued to expand. After the 26 October incident, [the assassination of President Pak Chong-hui in 1979], its members arrested and removed their senior officers by following the orders of their private organization, in violation of the military line of command, thereby succeeding in a military coup. (See pages 45 and 46) Hanahoe-affiliated officers began to draw attention from the inside and outside of the military as they passed from one to another like a baton all key posts in the DIC, the Capital Defense Command, the Ranger Command, the Army Headquarters, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and so forth. By forming a fore-runner group in each Military Academy graduating class, Hanahoe members automatically came to seize in their hands all key posts and key branches of the army.

In the military, there is a ranking order for all officers of the same grade; and on the basis of this order, the first, second, and third candidates for promotion and those who will be transferred to the reserve list are determined. Most of Hanahoe members hold the first through fourth place in this ranking among the officers who are members of each Military Academy graduating class; and that is why they have been promoted sooner than the other classmates. Currently, Hanahoe members hold the first through the fifth place among all those members of the 17th, 18th, and 19th Military Academy graduating classes who are placed in high military posts, and the first through the third place among those members of the 20th and 21st graduating classes who are placed in other high military posts.

Reportedly, this practice has given much frustration to not only non-Military Academy graduates, such as ROTC officers, Category A officers, and officers commissioned upon the completion of three-year training course, as well as to even those Military Academy graduates who are not Hanahoe members.

On the basis of what he experienced while working in the personnel affairs division of the Army Headquarters, a colonel who is a Military Academy graduate but not a Hanahoe member described how Hanahoe members established an exclusive monopoly of key posts.

He said: "In the case of the chief of personnel affairs, the cream of all key posts in the Army Headquarters, a total of 14 officers have successively held this post since 1981, and 11 of them were Hanahoe members. This post has been actively used in making personnel appointments skewed in favor of Hanahoe members.

The number of the Hanahoe members who held the posts of Army chief of staff, commander of the Capital Defense Command, and DIC commander—the posts that requires the unquestioned trust of the president—during the Fifth and Sixth Republics is incomparably by greater than the non-Hanahoe members who held the same posts during the same period. Because ex-President Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u were both charter members of the Hanahoe, these posts were virtually monopolized by younger Hanahoe members.

The same situation still persists with regard to the key military posts. Although non-Hanahoe members have been appointed to the posts of Army chief of staff and DIC commander, four-star General Yi Pil-song, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—the holder of the highest military rank—is a Hanahoe member. He is a member of the 17th Military Academy graduating class. In addition, Field Army Commanders Cho Nam-pung and Ku Chang-hoi (four-star generals) are also Hanahoe members. Both are members of the 20th graduating class. Among active duty three-star generals, Capital Defense Commander An Pyong-ho (20th graduating class), and Army Corps Commander Yi Tae-hyong (19th graduating class), and Army Corps Commanders Kim Chong-pae, Ham Tok- son, and Kim Kil-bu (members of the 20th graduating class) are Hanahoe members.

The placement of Hanahoe members with the rank of two-star general in key posts is more striking. Maj. Gen. Choe Sung-u (21st), chief of personnel management, the Army Headquarters; Maj. Gen. Choe Ki-hong (22d), director of policy and planning, the Defense Ministry; and Maj. Gen. Yi Chung-sok (21st), chief of operations, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, are Hanahoe members.

Recently, there have been some personnel changes which were regarded as somewhat unusual. Lt. Gen. Kim Yong-son (19th), who is not a Hanahoe member, was named as commander of the Ranger Command, the post that were monopolized by the Hanahoe during the Fifth and Sixth Republics.

In addition, the same is true with the post of chief of operations in the Army Headquarters. This post is now occupied by Maj. Gen. Kim Chong-sin (Category A, 157th class). Some in the military use the word "mutation" to describe the appointment of these two generals.

All the five Hanahoe members among the 23d graduating class of the Military Academy are front-line division commanders. Most of the Hanahoe members with the ranks of brigadier general and full colonel, who belong to the 24th through 26th graduating class, maintain the front-runner's position among their old classmates.

The Hanahoe connection is not limited to the military. Hanahoe members who belong to the 11th and succeeding graduating classes have occupied key posts in various sectors of society, thereby forming what is called the "Hanahoe division" comparable to the Taegu-Kyongbuk (TK) group. The roots of the human connection which was forged through a secret organization during the military service have expanded into political, financial, and other relationships.

It is a settled opinion that the personnel administration during the Sixth Republic revolved around what is known as the "9/9 connection" in addition to the Hanahoe connection. The 9/9 connection refers to those Hanahoe members who served under former President No Tae-u when he was the commander of the 9th Airborne Regiment (October 1974 through late 1977) and subsequently the commander of the 9th Division (January through December 1979). Included in this connection are those who were his staff members when he was the commander of the Army Capital Garrison Command (December 1979 through August 1980) and the commander of the Army Security Command (August 1980 through July 1981).

Currently, the 9/9 connection in the military includes: Yi Pil-sop, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Army Commander Ku Chang-hoe; Kim Chin-son, army deputy chief of staff; An Pyong-ho, commander of the Capital Defense Command; and Choe Ki-hong, director of policy and planning, the Defense Ministry. Yi Chin-sam, former army chief of staff; Yi Mun-sok, former minister of Government administration; and Chang Song-tuk, former personnel management director, the Army Headquarters, are the general officers with the 9/9 connection who have recently been placed in the reserve list. With the top military posts in the hands of the 9/9 connection in the inner circle of the Hanahoe, other Hanahoe-affiliated general officers were placed at the core of all other key military positions down the line. That was the situation when the Kim Yong-sam administration came into being.

With the Hanahoe and 9/9 connections in the monopoly of key military posts, there has been circulating a popular saying, "In the military, you can get ahead only when you have the right connection." That is why nonpolitical officers feel an increasing sense of dissatisfaction. One gets a different treatment depending on whether he happened to work in the same unit with the president or whether he belongs to a secrete private organization. This practice has given genuine professional soldiers a sense of being the odd men out. Said an ordinary colonel: "Apart from personnel affairs, when there is an accident in a unit commanded by a Hanahoe member, one notices partiality practiced in handing such case. For instance, in the early seventies when Yi Chong-ku was the commander of a front-line battalion, there was a firearm accident that resulted in the death of more than 10 people. But no action was taken against the commander, the responsible officer. In other instances, when Pak Chun-pyong was the commander of the 20th division, six soldiers died during a drill; and when Choe Pyong-uk was a division commander, a soldier under his command deserted to North Korea. But no action was taken against neither of these commanders. If similar accidents had occurred in units commanded by non-Hanahoe officers, surely these officers would have never escaped punishment."

In fact, the secret private organization which has established itself as the core force in the military for the past 20 years or more is confronted with a crisis generated within the military, due to opposition by ordinary officers who are Military Academy graduates but not Hanahoe members. During the stir over the Aljahoe scandal late last year, then Army Chief of Staff Kim Chin-yong assembled the representatives of Aljahoe members belonging to each Military Academy graduating class in an effort to settle the controversy. When the chief of staff asked the attendees to express their opinions about ways to resolve the trouble satisfactorily, one officer stood up and said, "Sir, if you, the chief of staff, fails to resolve this question (about the Aljahoe) correctly, you will be unable to escape the judgement of history when one of us becomes chief of staff in 20 years." This remark addressed to the chief of staff, the highest commanding officer of the army, by a junior officer patently demonstrates the audacity of the private organizations in the military, and one can imagine what depth of rancor they must have aroused in nonpolitical officers.

However, clearly there seems to be a limit to the military's ability to purge itself of the harm done by the Hanahoe because the influence of the Hanahoe, which has been entrenched in every aspect of the organization and order of the Army for the past 30 years, is too strong. The reason most of ordinary officers in the military hail the latest reshuffle of the key military posts is that they take it as the "declaration of war" by the new government to eradicate the private organizations in the military.

Those officers who are demanding a complete uprooting of the Hanahoe give this as their reason: Soldiers belonging to private organizations have virtually abandoned the spirit of being public servants; accordingly, when they are in charge of the backbone of national defense, they are bound to cause misfortunes to the country and the people. Further, they hold the strong opinion that even if the 150 or so Hanahoe members are eliminated from among the total 65,000 officers, it would pose no problem to the Army at all.

Of course, some officers in the military do not agree to this position of the majority of nonpolitical officers, on the ground that in reality, Hanahoe members, being the elite among Military Academy graduates, are actually outstanding in their ability in many cases. According to these officers, the problem is that the soldier-turned presidents in the past nursed private organizations in the military to use them for their political purposes.

It belongs to the inalienable right of the president to take personnel actions regarding general officers. It seems that whether President Kim will be able to have an effective control of the military and accomplish its reform will become clear when the periodic military personnel changes are announced in three months from now.

* New Ministers View Unification Policies

932C0106A Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean Apr 93 pp 158-165

[By correspondent An Hui-chang]

[Excerpts] The first cabinet of the Kim Yong-sam Administration has many "uncommon characteristics."

One of them is the fact that all the key posts dealing with North-South relations are occupied by former professors.

Prof. Han Wan-sang (Seoul University) has been appointed as Deputy Prime Minister and minister of national unification; Prof. Han Sung-chu (Koryo University) as minister of foreign affairs; Prof. Chong Chong-uk (Seoul University) as presidential senior secretary for foreign and security affairs; and Prof. Kim Tok (University of Foreign Studies) as director of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), respectively. This unprecedented appointment, the first ever since the establishment of the first ROK Government, is arousing unusual attention at home and abroad. [passage omitted]

This "gang of four professors" have in common the characteristics of being rational and pragmatic. However, they are different in character in that Deputy Prime Minister Han is more open-hearted, NSP Director Kim is more principle-oriented, and Foreign Minister Han and Presidential Senior Secretary Chong are more flexible. In addition, Deputy Prime Minister Han has a different background from those of the three others.

Deputy Prime Minister Han majored in sociology whereas the three others majored in international politics.

NSP Director Kim and Foreign Minister Han are both graduates of Kyonggi High School, the former being a senior by four years. Foreign Minister Han and Presidential Senior Secretary Chong are graduates of the Seoul University Department of Diplomacy, the former being a senior by two years. They have the same school connection. But Deputy Prime Minister Han is a graduate of Kyongbuk High School and was a sociology major in college.

On top of that, Han Wan-sang used to involve himself in real issues from the point of view of "opposing" the Establishment. But the other three dealt with issues while adapting themselves to the Establishment.

Therefore, it is difficult to find a common ground between Deputy Prime Minister Han and the other three. According to his former students, Prof. Han Wan-sang had no particular contact with Prof. Chong Chong-uk except on formal occasions on the campus, although both of them were professors of the same Seoul University.

On the contrary, Foreign Minister Han, Presidential Senior Secretary Chong, and NSP Director Kim have been on the advisory councils in the National Unification Board, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of National Defense since they first jointly served in the advisory council of the Red Cross in 1980. Professors Yi Sang-u (Sogang University) and An Pyong-chun (Yonsei University) were also among them.

Prof. Yi Sang-u said, "Inasmuch as Foreign Minister Han, Presidential Senior Secretary Chong, and NSP Director Kim have long been involved in policy issues, they will have no particular difficulty in actually pursuing national policies in the government."

Well, let us examine what kind of perception "the gang of four professors" have of North Korea and what their views on national reunification are.

In this regard, there are some common ground and some differences among the four.

First, Deputy Prime Minister Han. Up to now he has never presented any systematic theory on the reunification issue.

However, in his book *The Masses and Intellectuals,* he said, "Intellectuals should never take the national division as an accomplished fact nor abandon the hope for reunification, but should struggle against the forces seeking the perpetuation of the division face to face." He added, "A totalitarian unification formula biased toward the ideologies of the ultra leftists or rightists is undesirable." At first glance his view seems to smack of the unification-for-unification principle. But from what he said in his inaugural address and during his press conference, we get the impression that he has modified his view somewhat.

He declared: "The sentimental unification-for-unification principle is a problem. But the view of national unification based on the cold war mentality or the bureaucratic view of unification should be done away with. When the North and South come to recognize the importance of national reconciliation and happiness, the nuclear issue and other current issues will become secondary. The ultimate goal in building a new Korea is putting an end to the national division. Of great significance is our president's call upon President Kim Il-song in his inaugural address for discussing all issues from the standpoint that we are of the same race."

This statement may be construed as indicating that while fine tuning his own stand toward the unification issue, he put more stress on a nationalist approach by retreating one step back from his previous stand of unification for unification's sake. In other words, his new stand is that we should take measures to bring North Korea to the table of dialogue on the basis of our self-confidence in dealing with North Korea, and that we should view the unification issue ultimately from the standpoint of national co-prosperity.

On the other hand, Foreign Minister Han's view on the unification issue is expressed well in his paper read at a February seminar marking the first anniversary of the effectuation of the North-South Agreement.

In the paper, Han said: "The unification issue can be viewed from four angles: First, the peaceful management of the national division; second, measures and preparations for achieving unification; third, the economic, social, and political integration of North and South

Korea after unification is achieved; fourth, policies on and directions for inter-Korean relations and negotiations.

"For the peaceful management of the national division, first we need to carry on negotiations with the North and convince North Korea that dialogue and cooperation with South Korea are consistent with its own interest. It is desirable to make the most of international organizations, multilateral arrangements, and regional cooperation arrangements to dilute and neutralize the acute conflict and distrust between North and South within the framework of multinational arrangements. Inasmuch as unification is possible when it is predicated on change in the North Korean system, we must see to it that exchanges and cooperation with North Korea are aimed at democratizing the North Korean system and they will not contribute to strengthening the military capability of North Korea.

"It follows that our future policy should move in this direction: First of all, we should carry on negotiations with North Korea as far as is possible, and preempt the room for trouble. However, all issues related to establishing a lasting peace, such as the nuclear and disarmament issues, should be linked to economic cooperation. As long as North Korea persists in building up its military capability, we must be cautious about economic cooperation."

In essence his stand is that we first need to set long-range comprehensive goals for reunification and then actively push North-South dialogues while taking measures we can take at our own initiative, such as repatriating Yi In-mo to North Korea, but that when it comes to the nuclear issue, we must stick to our principles.

NSP Director Kim Tok's pet theory is presented in his thesis carried by the quarterly "IDEOLOGY."

He said: "It is short-sighted to apply a containment policy toward North Korea by riding the mood in favor of achieving unification by merger. North Korea is not yet a "cooperative partner" to us. As long as North Korea clings to the scheme of revolution based on its outmoded frigid concept of the front for national reunification, it could not be a real cooperative partner. However, it is dangerous and foolish to make North Korea continue to remain our adversary. Therefore, we must not give up our efforts to turn it into our partner in cooperation.

"Inevitably, it will not be until after the North Korean system has undergone a considerable change that the South's concessions can induce concessions on the part of the North and the difference between the positions of the North and South on the Korean question can be narrowed down. There is no other means but exchanges and cooperation that can bring about a substantive change in North-South relations.

"If we should pursue a policy vis-a-vis North Korea based on the idea of containment, it would result in the continuation of the severed North-South relations; and we should think of what kind of damage and danger we would have to encounter as a consequence of such policy. The current situation on the Korean Peninsula is such that we can not completely rule out the hypothetical model of personal tension, namely, the possibility that the North Korean leaders will make a dangerous decision in the event they fall into an extreme sense of tension and danger due to the isolation of the North from the outside world."

This is to say that although the current North Korean system is an anachronistic and problematical one, we should endeavor to achieve a practical rather than paper accord from a long-range perspective, and to this end, should shun a containment policy toward North Korea.

Presidential Senior Secretary Chong expressed his view during his press conference late last December:

"The North-South question by nature is not amenable to a quick fix. We need favorable conditions in the surrounding areas for its solution, and there are a lot of problems that need to be resolved internally in the North and South.... We have no nuclear card to play, and the injection of the nuclear issue into North-South relations, although we admit its inevitability, cannot but be questionable.... It is desirable to simultaneously push the demand for nuclear inspection and economic cooperation.... North Korea will not collapse in the next two to three years. With the advent of the era of Kim Chong-il, North Korea will embark upon reform."

When we look at the propensity of the new team on North-South relations on the basis of the substance of these statements, we see some commonality in their views.

First, their position is that we have to carry on negotiations with the North while mapping out consistent medium- and long-range policies with regard to the unification issue, even if we have to make some concessions. In this way, we have to induce North Korea, which is deficient in the knowledge of the trends of the world, to change its structures one by one.

Second, they are of the opinion that no tension should be created on the Korean Peninsula as far is as possible.

In other words, even if North Korea is adamant in its stand on the nuclear and other issue, it is desirable for us to show the kind of card that can placate the North so that we may prevent a tense situation from being created on the Korean Peninsula.

Former Vice Minister of Unification Yim Tong-won, a member of the team that played the leading role in North-South contacts under the No Tae-u Administration, said, "I think the new team is really an ideally composed team."

For him, who experienced the trouble caused by the discordant views within the ROK delegation under the

Sixth Republic, Yim does not expect the new team to experience the same kind of trouble.

Nevertheless, there is some difference of opinion among the new team. Of course, the difference is not distinctively observable. Some critics do not rule out the possibility that the difference will surface over Deputy Prime Minister Han's view that puts a particular stress on "our nation-come-first" principle.

An informed source on the North-South question expressed fears that if Deputy Prime Minister Han, failing to grasp the reality in international politics that the national potential is a determinant, should cling to the "nationalistic doctrine" in dealing with North-South relations, then a crack may open." This is to say that if there arises a difference of opinion between Deputy Prime Minister Han and the other three regarding the nature of international politics, it is bound to cause trouble.

Needless to say, one cannot say that there are already some visible signs of such crack. But it is suggestive that in the wake of Deputy Prime Minister Han's press statement to the effect that "if we stand on true nationalism, the nuclear issue will become secondary," the United States inquired about the true purport of this statement, and our government hurriedly dispatched Kong No-myon, the chairman of the Nuclear Control Commission to the United States and Japan.

The common view is that in the final analysis, the question whether the new team on North-South relations will be able to judiciously cope with various problems between the North and South it will encounter in the future, depends on a complete adjustment of views within the team itself and ultimately on the "ability" of President Kim. [passage omitted]

Since North Korea withdrew from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the government has been divided between two conflicting views—the get-tough school advocating a steamroller tactic and the appeasement school maintaining that "we still have time, and depending on what we do, we will be able to make a breakthrough."

We may say that internally and externally, our new team on North-South relations stand before the examiners who will test its ability to judge the situation, its diplomatic ability, and its ability to create a national consensus.

Burma

Khin Nyunt Receives SRV Deputy Foreign Minister

BK2804132493 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1200 GMT 28 Apr 93

[From the "news in brief" program]

[Text] Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, received Mr. Vu Khoan, deputy foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, who is currently visiting Yangon [Rangoon], at the Ministry of Defense's Dagon House at 0900 this morning.

SRV Minister Departs

BK2804132093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1200 GMT 28 Apr 93

[From the "news in brief" program]

[Text] U Nyunt Swe, deputy minister of foreign affairs, sent off Mr. Vu Khoan, deputy foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at Yangon [Rangoon] airport.

Husband Discusses Aung San Suu Kyi's Condition

BK2804065993 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] A UPI correspondent's dispatch from Rangoon has carried a report about Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. The UPI dispatch from Rangoon quoted Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's family cirles on Tuesday as saying that detained Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the military government are closer to an agreement to end the stalemate between the two sides. The UPI dispatch in Rangoon cited family sources, who in turn quote Michael Aris [Aung San Suu Kyi's husband], as saying that representatives of the military government came to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and are reported to be holding talks on ways to end the stalemate between her and the military government.

Dr. Michael Aris in Britain's Oxford University has neither denied or confirmed the report. However, Dr. Michael Aris sent the following statement to the BBC soon after his return from a visit to his wife, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, in Burma. The statement reads: My anxieties have been considerably allayed since I have been able to discover the true state of affairs concerning my wife. Her health has been a matter of some concern in recent months, but I am optimistic that there is nothing that cannot now be corrected by proper nutrition and perhaps some medication. Such problems as there were has already in fact been sorted out before my arrival. I believe similar anxiety can be avoided in the future with the goodwill demonstrated by the authorities. I believe it is not necessary for me to specially mention my wife's genuine goodwill and desiren for the resolution of matters and unity [Asin Pye Nyi Nyut Kya Sei Ye Atwet]. Her spirits and her conviction remain as steadfast as ever.

Indian Paper Reports on Chin Insurgents

BK2904031693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0130 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] The 22 April 1993 issue of THE TIMES OF INDIA newspaper published in India carried a report about attacks in Manipur State by Naga and Kuki Chin terrorist insurgents who are well armed wtih modern weapons. The report stated that the Manipur State government authorities have presented a submission to the Indian prime minister seeking help from the Indian Army to fight the insurgents.

The Naga terrorist insurgents have been waging an armed struggle against the Indian Government for many years, but the Kuki Chin terrorist insurgent organization is an organization which was formed recently with the stated aim of integrating the Chin State with part of Indian territory to form Kuki Land.

The two terrorist insurgent organizations have been fighting each other. The report in the Indian paper said the Kuki Chin insurgents are based on the Myanmar [Burmese] side of the India-Myanmar border and are described as if they receive support from the Myanmar Government.

The Naga terrorist insurgents in alliance with some terrorist groups in Myanmar have been helping one another. The Naga insurgents have frequently carried out murder, robbery, and arson in border villages inside Myanmar territory. The Kuki insurgents, who have engaged in similar activities, have frequently clashed with the Myanmar Defense Services.

The authorities concerned have stated that the Government of Myanmar have never encouraged or supported any insurgent groups, including Naga and Kuki Chin terrorist insurgents, and it will not permit the existence of any armed terrorist insurgent group, which will pose a danger to a neighboring country.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Singapore

Inflation Rises to 2.4 Percent in First Quarter

BK2404105693 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 24 Apr 93 p 43

[Text] Inflation in the first quarter was 2.4 percent—just marginally higher than the 2.3 percent for 1992 as a whole.

But when compared to the previous quarter, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the January-March period has hardly changed—the increase was only 0.6 percent.

Data released yesterday by the Department of Statistics showed that in March, the CPI rose by 0.4 percent over the previous month.

Except for clothing prices which dipped marginally by 0.1 percent because of cheaper ready-made garments, other index components rose.

—Miscellaneous items saw the highest price rise of 0.9 percent, jacked up mainly by dearer cigarettes.

—Food prices, the largest component which makes up 40 percent of the index, rose by 0.2 percent due to dearer hawker food and vegetables, which more than offset cheaper seafood, pork and poultry.

—Transport and communications increased by 0.7 percent due to largely higher car prices.

—Housing cost went up by 0.3 percent as a result of higher water rates.

When compared to March last year, the CPI last month rose by 2.6 percent.

Japanese Manufacturing Investment Declines

BK2804095793 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 24-25 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] Singapore—Fewer Japanese businesses, especially in manufacturing, are setting up shop in Singapore.

Their numbers peaked in 1987, when 910 Japanese businesses were registered here. In the first 10 months of 1992, just 163 businesses were set up here, according to the Japan External Trade Organisation.

The number is likely to fall further this year, said Naohiro Taguchi, Jetro's managing director in Singapore. "The Japanese economy is still in bad shape and Japanese firms are still cutting back investments," he told BUSINESS TIMES in an interview.

A survey by NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN shows capital spending in Japan alone will drop by 8.4 per cent in the fiscal year starting April 1993.

According to Mr Taguchi Japan's new US$ 117 billion (S$189 billion) fiscal stimulus package will kick-start the economy, but this will only happen at the earliest next year. The sharp rise in the Japanese yen, he added, would hit Japanese exports hard but do little to spur Japanese investment abroad for the time being.

The decline in the number of new Japanese businesses in Singapore has been matched by a downward trend in Japanese investments here.

Total annual Japanese direct investment in Singapore peaked in 1989 at US$1.9 billion, then fell to US$840 million in 1990 and US$613 million in 1991, according to Japan's Finance Ministry. In the first six months of 1992 the investments totalled US$323 million.

Mr Taguchi suggested it was possible some Japanese investments which would otherwise have come to ASEAN countries would be diverted to China, investors' current favourite location. Japanese manufacturers are already shunning Singapore because of its labour shortage and high wages, he said.

In 1987, 279 Japanese manufacturers registered businesses in Singapore, but in 1991 just 42 did so, going by the data culled by Jetro from Registry of Companies and Businesses' records.

In the first 10 months of last year, just 33 Japanese manufacturers registered themselves in Singapore. Since 1987, a total of 531 Japanese manufacturers have registered businesses here, but Mr Taguchi said about one-tenth of them have either pulled out by now or remain more "paper" companies.

Over a third of the Japanese manufacturers are in the electronics industry. The next biggest groups are petrochemical and general machinery, each making up 12 per cent.

Some 1,653 Japanese companies in industries other than manufacturing have established a presence in Singapore since 1987. The bulk, 42 per cent, are in trading and commerce, while services make up the second biggest group (19 per cent).

In 1987, 631 Japanese non-manufacturers registered businesses here. This dropped to 202 in 1991, and 130 in the first 10 months of 1992.

Australian Defense Secretary Arrives 26 Apr

BK2704122493 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Apr 93 p 22

[Text] The Australian Secretary of Defence, Mr. Anthony Ayers, called on the Minister for Defence, Dr Yeo Ning Hong, at Mindef [Ministry of Defense] yesterday.

Mr Ayers arrived here on Saturday for a four-day official visit at the invitation of the Permanent Secretary (Defence), Mr Lim Siong Guan.

Two landmark agreements were concluded with Australia recently.

The first was to set up a Republic of Singapore Air Force [RSAF] Training School at the Royal Australian Air Force Base in Pearce, Western Australia, in September.

The other was for cooperation in defence science and technology research and development.

Discussions are going on for an agreement on mutual provision of military medical and dental services.

The forces from the two sides train together regularly.

One example is a major sea and air exercise, codenamed Exercise Kakadu, next month.

The RSAF will take part in a major Australia-United States Air Defence exercise, Pitch Black, in July/August.

Singapore Armed Forces armour troops will also carry out Exercise Wallaby in Queensland in October/November.

Mindef said in a statement that Mr Ayers' visit reflected the warm and friendly ties between Australia and Singapore.

'Young PAP' Revamped in Party Recruitment Drive

BK2804131993 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 26 Apr 93 p 2

[Text] The youth wing of the People's Action Party [PAP], renamed Young PAP, has been revamped in an all-out effort to renew party ranks and ensure that the PAP remains Singapore's mainstream political party.

The changes underway include a major recruitment drive aimed at roping in young Singaporeans from all sectors, particularly fresh graduates, and giving leeway to Young PAP to take its own position when making policy recommendations.

Brig-Gen (Res) [Reservist] George Yeo, Minister for Information & the Arts and PAP Youth chairman announced the moves at a closed-door talk, "PAP Youth Wing: Recasting the Net", for party activists yesterday. Also unveiled were the mission statement and new logo of Young PAP which was launched in September 1986 as the PAP Youth Wing.

According to Dr Ong Chit Chung, Parliamentary Secretary (Home Affairs and Labour) and chairman of PAP's publicity and publications committee, the minister said: "We must make it fashionable for young people to identify with and join the PAP."

For a start, the age limit for Young PAP members has been raised from 35 to 40 years.

And there will be elections for Young PAP district and branch committee positions. These posts have so far been appointed. The move sought not only to raise members' sense of involvement but also to immerse them in the politics of elections, BG Yeo said.

A recruitment drive will be headed by Lim Heng Kiang, Minister of State (National Development) and Young PAP vice-chairman. Like the big corporations which induct the cream of each year's graduating classes, the PAP will also identify and woo bright, promising university and polytechnic graduates into its ranks.

But, while reaching out to the professionals, the PAP will not lose touch with other segments who may not be proficient in English. It must remain a multi-ethnic, mass-based party, said BG Yeo. He announced the following structural changes to Young PAP:

—An affiliate membership category has been created for young Singaporeans keen to take part in Young PAP activities but who may not be prepared yet to become card-carrying party members.

—A Policy Studies Group acting as a mini-party think tank has been formed. The group, headed by lawyer Sin Boon Ann, will study domestic and external affairs that have long-term implications for Singapore and for the PAP, and analyse policy alternatives.

—A Young PAP headquarters branch is to be set up. The HQ branch, headed by businessman Christopher Goh, will organise regular luncheon talks on a range of political and nonpolitical issues.

—An international relations section will also be set up to foster ties with political parties of other countries. It will organise visits to Malaysia, Indonesia, China and Vietnam.

—A Public Affairs section to communicate the ideas and programmes of Young PAP. This will be done largely through Petir, the party organ. But Young PAP may, if necessary, start its own newsletter.

For better coordination, a representative of the PAP Women's Wing will sit on the HQ committee of Young PAP. BG Yeo said Young PAP must empathise with the ideals and aspirations of young Singaporeans and "be one with them".

Told To 'Occasionally' Hold Unlike Views

BK2804133593 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 26 Apr 93 p 2

[Text] WITHIN the broad reach of the People's Action Party [PAP] platform, Young PAP must occasionally take positions that do not square with the central party thinking, said Brigadier-Gen [BG] (Res) [Reservist] George Yeo yesterday.

"Maybe at times, Young PAP is half in and half out of the party," the Minister of Information & the Arts and chairman of Young PAP said. But if it captures correctly the aspirations of the young, it may well determine the future directions of the party "central tendencies".

BG Yeo was speaking at a closed-door party talk on the role of Young PAP at the DBS [Development Bank of Singapore] auditorium .

Parliamentary Secretary (Home Affairs and Labour) Ong Chit Chung, who chairs the PAP publicity and publications committee, briefed reporters on the points made by BG Yeo.

Young PAP must market and sell the party's policies and feed back to the leadership the ground feel, he said. This is necessary if PAP is to remain "well-centred" in the country's political life.

Young PAP may not be critical to the party in the next one or two general elections, said BG Yeo.

But as Singapore enters the next century, a new generation must be in place to shoulder the burden, he said.

Planning long-term for the PAP is as important as planning for Singapore's defence or development, he said.

Cambodia

Khmer Rouge: UNTAC Involved in Attack on Camp

BK2904020893 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Excerpt] On 25 April 1993, the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets mobilized 100 troops, armed with artillery pieces and machine guns, from Sisophon and Battambang together with some UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] men to attack a Cambodian refugee camp at Yeay Ot. They shelled and machine-gunned the area, wounding a number of male and female inhabitants, including a number of children. Many people's houses were destroyed and a large quantity of their property was stolen.

According to a reliable report that we have received, this attack at Yeay Ot by the Vietnamese and their puppets was launched with the collusion of UNTAC from within and outside the camp in accordance with their political and military objectives.

However, this barbarous crime committed by the Vietnamese and their puppets, together with UNTAC, was repulsed by the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea and the people there. After half an hour of fighting, they were compelled to withdraw. Some of them were wounded.

This is another criminal act clearly attesting to the fact that:

1. They have totally violated the Paris agreement.
2. They have violated human rights.
3. They have done this in brought daylight in the eyes of the international community.

It should be noted that Yeay Ot camp does not belong to Democratic Kampuchea. It is a refugee camp organized by the United Nations. [passage omitted]

Tokyo To Send Bulletproof Vests to UN Police

OW2804024093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0104 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 28 KYODO—Japan's government will provide U.S.-made bulletproof vests for some 75 Japanese officials working as civilian police in Cambodia to protect them from possible attacks, Japanese officials said Wednesday.

The government's move comes in the wake of the killing of Atsuhito Nakata, 25, a Japanese volunteer who was shot earlier this month while working as a United Nations election monitor.

The vests, to be sent to Cambodia from Tokyo in early May, are strong enough to resist bullets fired by an AK-47 automatic rifle, a high performance weapon widely used in the war-torn country, the officials said.

Japanese-made helmets, much stronger than those used by Japanese riot police, will also be sent to Cambodia, the officials said.

Nakata and his Cambodian interpreter were shot dead by unidentified gunmen on April 8.

As Cambodia's May 23 to 28 general elections draw closer, there has been an increase in the number of military assaults on U.N. workers and ethnic Vietnamese. The Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction is believed to be responsible for most of such attacks.

In defiance of a peace agreement—signed by Cambodia's four warring factions in October, 1991, in Paris—the Khmer Rouge headed by Pol Pot has refused to disarm and participate in the elections.

UN To Provide Politicians' Transportation During Polls

BK2904085293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0822 GMT 29 Apr 93

[by Robert Birsel]

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 29 (AFP)—The United Nations will transport Cambodian politicians on campaign trips around the country if their freedom of movement is restricted by the government, the head of the U.N. operation here said Thursday.

The U.N. was considering increasing its air transport capacity to facilitate campaigning for the May 23-27 polls, said Yasushi Akashi, head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

"If UNTAC considers that freedom of movement is being unreasonably restricted it will not hesitate to take exceptional measures to assist the parties to exercise it," Akashi told a working session of the Supreme National Council (SNC).

"The unrestricted freedom of movement of all party workers will remain a priority concern for UNTAC throughout the campaign period," he added.

Thursday's SNC session focused on the freedom of movement of candidates and voters following complaints by opposition parties that their officials and supporters were being hampered in their travels by Phnom Penh government authorities.

Earlier this week Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the leader of the main opposition party FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia], was prevented from leaving Phnom Penh airport in a rented private helicopter, disrupting a campaign trip.

The prince and two of his associates were finally flown to the election rally in Kompong Cham province in a U.N. helicopter.

Phnom Penh government authorities said Prince Ranariddh had not been allowed to depart in the rented helicopter because domestic air services were a monopoly of the government airline.

Akashi told Thursday's meeting that the holding of free and fair elections took precedence over any internal regulations and candidates must enjoy total freedom of movement.

"UNTAC will assess the freedom and fairness of the election campaign partly on the extent to which the parties enjoy freedom of movement," he said.

The U.N. had flown Prince Ranariddh to a rally and would transport other politicians if "the parties concerned can furnish proof that they are being unreasonably restricted in their movements", and if UNTAC had empty seats on its aircraft.

"UNTAC is actively considering increasing air transport capacity to make helicopters available for genuine campaign purposes," he said.

The Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction, which withdrew its officials from the capital earlier this month citing security concerns, did not attend the meeting.

Also absent was SNC chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who is currently in Beijing.

Akashi said the prince had informed him that he would also be unable to attend a plenary session of the SNC scheduled for May 6 due to poor health.

The U.N. chief also told the meeting that there had been a considerable decrease in the number of politcally-motivated killings of late, though they were still taking place at an "unacceptably high level."

UNTAC had confirmed that six FUNCINPEC party members had been killed so far this month, and investigations indicated that two of the murders were committed by Phnom Penh government officials, he said.

UNTAC was investigating allegations that a further eight FUNCINPEC members has been killed in April, he said, and the Khmer Rouge had murdered three Vietnamese civilians and injured another in recent weeks in two separate incidents.

Thursday's meeting was stormy with unprecedented outbursts between the Phnom Penh government and the FUNCINPEC representatives.

The session degenerated into a "slanging match" between the two which "lowered the dignity" of the SNC, an official who attended the talks said, adding that it "exemplifies the state of Cambodian politics.

Government Spokesman Holds Weekly News Briefing

BK2804044993 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] Khieu Kanharit, spokesman of the government of the State of Cambodia [SOC], gave a weekly news briefing on the morning of 27 April at Sakal I Hotel to national and international newsmen and representatives of various embassies in Cambodia.

Khieu Kanharit denied a report that the SOC party had blocked the installation of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party's television station and then agreed to allow the installation only with UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] intervention. Khieu Kanharit explained: As a matter of fact, we have never blocked it because we have already agreed on the principle of equal use of propaganda networks. However, FUNCINPEC's error was that, according to UNTAC's instruction, any party desiring to install its own television station must inform the local administrative authorities and apply for the launching. On 21 April, FUNCINPEC sent a letter to the local authorities informing them of its plan to launch this station but it had not sent an application to the SOC Government. Only on 21 April did the FUNCINPEC send an application and on 22 April His Excellency Hun Sen approved it.

Khieu Kanharit added that this was to verify the SOC's stand on the implementation of the Paris agreement and was not because of the pressure by any party or UNTAC.

Khieu Kanharit also informed the participants about the outcome of the 22 April meeting between Hun Sen and Akashi. Hun Sen criticized UNTAC, for not seeing the past realities, and Mr. Akashi, who, at the 21 April working session of the Supreme National Council, criticized the SOC for using the state's personnel and propaganda means to launch a campaign for its party. Hun Sen explained that our candidates have all resigned temporarily; the budgets for our propaganda means were all given by our party. As a matter of fact, UNTAC has never checked the income of other parties. For example, the FUNCINPEC Party earned its budgets from logging. In principle, any budgets gained from exploiting natural resources must be regarded as government budgets and not as a party's budgets. Contrary to this, the FUNCINPEC has used these budgets and all FUNCINPEC personnel in the party's service.

Hun Sen also criticized UNTAC for allowing Prince Ranariddh's helicopter to fly to Takeo Province, saying that this permission was totally against the UNTAC mandate and the SOC's law because the domestic passenger service was a monopoly of the Cambodian Government airline. Any party or individual desiring to make a domestic flight must directly contact the Cambodian airline instead of the UNTAC.

Khieu Kanharit reported that counterfeit baht and dollar have flooded the country. According to reports we received, fake 100-baht notes were brought in through Siem Reap, Battambang, and Banteay meanchey provinces. Several million fake baht have flooded our Cambodia.

Khieu Kanharit suspected that some political parties might be behind the influx of the fake bank notes for use in buying votes from the people in the countryside and to sabotage the economy. As for the fake dollar bills, they were believed to have been smuggled in by air or sea.

The SOC side has already informed the UNTAC and the Thai Embassy so that they improve inspections at checkpoints.

Khieu Kanharit rejected as untrue a report by the VOA that SOC troops had attacked Yeay Ap village, a Khmer Rouge base, in Ratanamondol District [Battambang province]. According to a report from our armed forces there, the attack at Yeay Ap village was actually a clash between Khmer Rouge soldiers in a trade dispute.

Phnom Penh Leaders 'Must Be Condemned to Death'

BK2404071393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] People in Phnom Penh's Pochentong suburb have said that Hun Sen, Chea Sim, Heng Samrin, Tie Banh, Hor Namhong, Pol Saroeun—who are the arch traitors and the Yuon's [derogatory term for Vietnamese] lackeys—must be condemned to death. They have furiously commented that those individuals, who are the arch traitors and criminals, have colluded with the Yuon aggressors in systematically massacring many million Cambodian people. The Cambodian people have already sentenced them to death in light of their ugly treason, infamously currupt practices, and horrible crimes.

During the 13 years of the Yuon war of aggression, Hun Sen, Chea Sim, Heng Samrin, Tie Banh, Hor Namhong, Pol Saroeun have served the Yuon policy of invading, annexing, and swallowing Cambodia's territory. They have, in connivance with the Yuon aggressors, systematically massacred the Cambodian people. They have given the Yuon a free hand to cut off Cambodia's terrestrial and maritime territory and allowed the influx of millions of ethnic Yuon into Cambodia in order to plunder houses, farm land, lakes, and rivers of the Cambodian people in accordance with the Yuon's Indochinese strategy.

The people say those traitors have committed a serious offense to Cambodia's people and history. Also UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] chieftains and the alliances in and outside UNTAC, they add, have come and colluded with the Yuon aggressors in defending those traitors. They, however, have bitterly been denounced and held responsible to the history of Cambodia and the world. It is asked why do they need to help the Yuon aggressors and the traitorous Yuon puppets? Because they have no concern about Cambodia's peace, independence, and sovereignty. They continue to snatch their vested interests in Cambodia regardless of whether the Yuon aggressors further occupy and control the country. Look! In Phnom Penh, they are thievingly grasping all (?national) property and state buildings along the road from Pochentong to the royal palace. They have plundered all the land on both sides of the road from Pochentong to Thnal Bat and Tuol Kouk, small and big factories in the city, and land on the banks of Basak river and in Chroy Changva and Kaoh Oknhatei. The Yuon's puppets and lackeys have sold out everything in order to amass dollars to line their pockets in preparation to flee the country.

It is reported that UNTAC chief Akashi has issued a new law to protect the traitorous bandits Hun Sen, Chea Sim, Heng Samrin, Tie Banh, Hor Namhong, and Pol Saroeun and the international bandits plundering the national resources and state and private properties. The Cambodian people will never recognize contracts, agreements, or laws selling out the nation to the traitorous gang or Akashi. The private property and ownership that the Yuon aggressors and their puppets have plundered and sold to foreigners should be handed back to the Cambodian people, no matter what.

Commentary: Phnom Penh, SRV Seek Exclusive Power

BK2404053193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 93

[Station commentary: "Now It Is Clear That the Yuon and Puppets Want Nobody To Contend for Power With Them"]

[Text] The incident of the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] and puppets' sending troops to attack the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] offices in Chikreng District seat and Siem Reap provincial town clearly show various observers, political parties, and the Cambodian people that the Yuon and puppets want no one to contend for power with them. It is obvious that the Yuon and puppets have begun to attack other people openly.

The general public can see that the policy of invading and occupying Cambodia and the policy of keeping the Yuon puppets as a smokescreen have not been changed in the least. As for the puppets, they have not changed their status as the Yuon's cheap lackeys either. On the contrary, the Yuon and puppets, backed by UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] chieftains and the alliances in and outside UNTAC, have implemented a fascist policy of massacring the Cambodian people and the members of various political parties they regard as an obstruction to their filthy scheme to prepare for their puppets to win so that they can eventually snatch their vested interests in Cambodia.

Given the present situation, the general public asks whether the election scheme mapped out by Akashi and the alliances in and outside UNTAC can proceed. The Cambodian people, the Cambodian national resistance forces [CNRF], and various political parties have all realized this problem. They will never allow the Yuon and their puppets, as well as the alliances in and outside UNTAC, to do away with Cambodians and Cambodia's independence and sovereignty. The situation has infuriated the Cambodian people in general, the CNRF, and diverse political parties, which can no longer remain hand-crossed. Later, the battle between the Yuon aggressors and their puppets on the one hand and the people, the CNRF, and different political parties on the other will intensify since this issue concerns the issue of life and death of the Cambodian nation's survival and destiny.

Should Akashi and the unscupulous people in and outside UNTAC remain persistent in implementing the policy of destroying Cambodia, it is certain that the elections will fail and that nothing can restore them.

Phnom Penh Pledges To Return Opposition TV Station

BK2304120993 Hong Kong AFP in English 1051 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 23 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government, which halted the setting up of a television station by the opposition FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party by confiscating its equipment, has said it will give the equipment back.

Prime Minister Hun Sen assured U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) Chief Yasushi Akashi that he would order the return of the FUNCINPEC transmitter, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said Friday.

Akashi made the appeal to Hun Sen after government customs officials seized the party's transmitter at the airport on Sunday, saying that FUNCINPEC had not applied properly to set up a rival station.

But a U.N. official attempting to enforce the U.N. free access law for campaigning ahead of elections scheduled for May 23-27 disagreed.

"They did apply on April 1. We have the letter," said Susan Manuel.

The FUNCINPEC Party, loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the strongest opposition party in the upcoming U.N. elections, has been trying for weeks to set up its own television station to compete against the only other one in the country, which is run by the government.

The government station, Television Kampuchea, repeatedly broadcasts propaganda for its political wing, the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], but is forced by the United Nations to allow the 19 opposition parties to share a one-hour slot during prime time each day to get their campaign message across.

FUNCINPEC had other TV equipment, including a cable, antenna and testing equipment, confiscated on April 9.

It was released with UNTAC intervention four days later, Manuel said.

Last Saturday, the customs office also seized 570 kilograms (1,250 pounds) worth of campaign posters being imported from France by the Cambodge Renaissance Party, saying there were "too many," Manuel said.

The posters were given back Wednesday, again with UNTAC intervention, she said.

Cambodge Renaissance is headed by Y Phandara, the nephew of government Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, who is one of the only government officials who has not joined the ruling CPP.

Text of Hun Sen Address in Kandal 22 Apr

BK2504152993 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Apr 93

[Speech by Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, at a meeting with people at Prek Russei monastery in the Kandal provincial town on 22 April—recorded]

[Text] Greetings to the clergy and all grandfathers, grandmothers, uncles, aunts, older and younger brothers and sisters, and students present here toward whom I have the most affectionate, respectful, and thoughtful sentiments. Today, I am very moved and happy to be able to take part in the inauguration of another new realization, that is this Prek Russei bridge. I am also extremely moved and pleased with the warm reception hosted for me by all of you. I have personally received thanks from you to the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and myself for our contribution toward the construction of this bridge, which is officially opened today. On this occasion, I would like to inform the clergy and compatriots that I [words indistinct] flooding in 1991. At that time, I energetically strived to make this bridge take shape, but due to the lack of funds, the contruction was a little bit delayed. I would also like to inform the audience that two generous persons, Mr. An Suksam-ang and Mrs. Chhun Muoy, have also made contributions toward the construction of this bridge. The CPP, I, and the compatriots would like to express our gratitude to (?the two persons and) their families for their joint efforts and cooperation with the CPP and myself in successfully building this bridge.

I am very happy to see this bridge built, but a stretch of road in bad condition on the other side of the river (?has not been repaired yet). So I will ask the province's communications department to [words indistinct]. I am accepting your request for the repair and I hope that, with my promise to you, a number of generous persons will come foward and make cash donations toward the restoration of the road [words indistinct]. By the way, I would like to earnestly request the compatriots to help preserve and maintain the bridge in good condition so we can use it for a long time. I promise that if the bridge were cut off by floods, I would rebuild a new one for you. [passage indistinct] I have often told constructors in this and other areas that if (?they have not had enough funds or materials], they should not proceed with the repair. [passage indistinct] If a bridge is not strong, it will collapse when cars or oxen or horses carts go past, then passengers and oxen will get killed. This is what they call (?sins). I always advise technicians that if they do not have enough materials, they should postpone their projects. Now materials are enough, so they can start.

I would again like to pledge that if a bridge were cut off by floods, I would certainly rebuild it. [passage indistinct] If a bridge is not maintained and protected from unscrupulous persons who take off its screws or planks [words indistinct]. Moreover, the communications department is also asked to put up notice, clearly indicating the supporting capacity of the bridge. For instance, if a bridge can support a 10-tonne car, notice should indicate only eight or nine tonnes. And if a bridge that can only support a 10-tonne load is destroyed by a log transporting truck of 30 tonnes, the owner of the truck should be held responsible for rebuilding the bridge. The owner of the truck has to rebuid the bridge destroyed by his truck with a load of 30 tonnes. So it is now very clear: If a bridge is destroyed by floods, I will reconstruct it. [passage indistinct] But if it is destroyed by an overloaded truck, the truck owner has to pay the damage. Notices should be put up at both ends of a bridge [words indistinct]. As for those transporting logs, they only want only to carry the maximum load; they do not care about the destruction of bridges or roads.

Bridges and roads—including railway lines; national routes; and communications routes linking villages, districts [words indistinct]—are very important. They are like our blood vessels. Before, our compatriots on the other side could not cross to this area with their carts or cars. They had to come here via other roads [words indistinct]. Now we have already linked this side with the other. This represents one of the achievements scored by the CPP over the past more than 14 years.

Revered clergy and beloved compatriots: I start my speech with the issue of the bridge which is one of our achievements. Now I would like to convey greetings and best wishes from His Excellency Heng Samrin, His Excellency Chea Sim, the CPP, and the government to all of you. May this new year of the rooster, B.E. 2537, bring you prosperity, longevity, a fair complexion, happiness, good health, and wisdom.

Revered clergy and beloved compatriots. I and officials [words indistinct] as all of you have said that you come here in order to see me in person although you have already seen me on television and newspapers. Some have even said that they want to touch me. [passage indistinct] I, representing the CPP and the government, am extremely moved to be loved and trusted by the compatriots. My actions are not detrimental to all of you. As you have already seen, the CPP's actions are all aimed at bringing about the survival and prosperity for the people, including the Cambodians and Islam, as well as other ethnic minority groups and foreign nationals in Cambodia.

As for Buddhism, Islam, and other religions which also represent an activity for prosperity, the CPP has also restored them. Over the past more than 14 years, the CPP have not only revived the country, but has also developed it.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to talk a bit about my being harshly criticized by a great many political parties in the past few days. They said Hun Sen had paid people to attend meetings. [passage indistinct] When I went to Vihear Suor, over 50,000 people attended my meeting. In the Kompong Cham provincial town, there were more than 40,000; in Tbong Khmum District, over 50,000; in the Prey Veng provincial town, 50,000; in the Takeo provincial town, more than 50,000; in Tram Kak District, more than 50,000; in Angkor Chey District, nearly 50,000; and in (?Kampot, nearly 70,000). They claimed that Hun Sen had paid those people to take part in the gatherings. I really do not understand this. The CPP has never invited the people to come and receive donations. I cannot afford to give away donations. [passage indistinct] Actually, the people wanted to see me in person although they have already seen me on television. They love me, they pity me. Right now, some old ladies staying there said: You appeared corpulent on television in the last few moths, but now you look thin. How can I remain corpulent as everyday I keep working until 2 o'clock in the morning. So I ask the compatriots who saw me a few months ago to judge whether the charge that Hun Sen and the CPP have paid the people, forced the people, intimidate the people into attending the meetings is right. If it is not right, the compatriots should reject the accusation and tell them that what you have said is not correct, you tell lies. We come to meet Hun Sen, Chea Sim, and Heng Samrin ourselves because we want to hear their voices, we want to see them personally. All of you should defend me; otherwise I will further be accused unjustly. They are accusing me indiscriminately.

They have also claimed that the State of Cambodia [SOC] has threatened the people to stop listening to them because there were only 100, 200, 50, 70, 17, or 10 people attending their rallies each time. They are accusing us of forcing the people to abstain from taking part in their meetings. I really do not understand this and I will never understand this. Grandmothers and grandfathers, please, help me. Today if you do not want to come, nobody is going to force you. And if you want to go and listen to this or that gentleman or this or that party, it is up to you. Nobody will object to this or intimidate you. Right now along the road, I saw some political parties were moving freely to ask votes from the people. So why are they accusing the CPP of menacing them? I really do not understand this. I call on the people all over the country to make their own judgment about this accusation. The people do not like those parties and say [words indistinct]. The people also say those parties did not save them from the Pol Pot regime, so how can they go and listen to them. [passage indistinct]

When the people attend, they say nothing at the meetings but insult Heng Samrin, Chea Sim, Hun Sen. So in the long run, the people thinking that those parties will give donations to them walk away when they receive nothing. The parties are saying nothing except shouting insults at me. They use abusive language to criticize me. They call me one-eyed jack. This does not upset me because actually I am one-eyed. But my being one-eyed is for the cause of the nation and motherland. And I have been one-eyed because of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. If there was no war and if there was no appeal from His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, I would not have been one-eyed. I would still have my eye to earn my living as a farmer. I was injured five times and in the end I have emerged one-eyed. I have become one-eyed because of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who himself also acknowledges that Hun Sen and his wife have joined his front after his appeal. I have become blind in one eye not because I have committed acts of thievery or robberies. So I would like to plead with them for putting an end to this kind of insult. I have been hurt by the insult. [passage indistinct]. I was already hurt when my eye was gouged out, so please do not add insult to injury. However, it is very hard to educate them. We have a proverb saying: Do not try to bend the Sralau [a tree with very hard wood]; do not give advice to bad people. They can insult Hun Sen as much as they please. Hun Sen will not die if Hun Sen is still supported by the people.

Last night, the American radio station—maybe the American radio is afraid [words indistinct]. The other day an American diplomat told me: Your Excellency, it has been said that the United States supports various parties that oppose Phnom Penh and the CPP. Washington has asked me to clearly inform Your Excellency that the United States does not support any party. The United States is neutral. This is what the American said. This was said to me the other day. I am faithfully relating this.

I said: I hope that Your Excellency remains neutral and do not support any party and do not oppose any party because we are holding elections democratically with political neutrality. However, this morning the American radio station launched quite an attack against us. A few days ago it carried commentaries to influence the election. I would like to appeal to the United States not to interfere in Cambodia's internal affairs. Allow the Cambodian people to decide their destiny themselves. This morning the American radio cited UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] officials as saying that this evening, at 1530, I will meet with UNTAC chief Akashi.

We have been accused of abusively seizing equipment belonging to two political parties. So I would like to clarify that the equipment has been seized because the parties have acted illegally. They have imported 63 cars without paying taxes and they illegally set up radio stations in Phnom Penh without applying for proper authorization. And now they are bringing in television equipment, as before, without any permission at all. Actually, the materials belong to a political party, but UNTAC put (?its label) on them. So customs officials had to seize them when they discovered this. If something belongs to UNTAC, it is another matter. But if materials are the property of political parties, their importation should first be authorized.

Moreover, they have never applied for any permission to set up its television station in Phnom Penh. On this issue, UNTAC has issued a notice clearly stating that before setting up of any radio or television station, authorization should be first obtained. They have never asked for any permission before, but suddenly they wrote to us saying: Your Excellency is informed that our party is prepared to set up the channel 9 television station. Concerning this channel 9, it has already been given to a country. So now it is impossible for us to grant another authorization to that party if it just comes and wants to immediately install its station. If it acted in compliance with the law, I would arrange a place for them. Our customs officials seized the equipment because the party has committed an offense. Since you [Ranariddh] are a law doctor and infringe the law, I need to give you a law lesson by seizing your equipment. This is to help you to abide by the law. You cannot just breach the law. As for another party, it wanted to bring in some boxes of materials. It wrote a letter to us via UNTAC asking for the importation of the materials. However, when the goods arrived at the airport, we asked to check and see whether the boxes contain only items that are allowed tax exemption. Suppose the boxes do not contain documents but items that are taxed, or heroin—I am not accusing the party of smuggling heroin—what will happen then. The party is duty-bound to inform me and clearly declare the items in the boxes. But it did not intend to do so. So what can I do if it did not want to inform me and the boxes were sealed? For example, if the boxes contained 5,000 undeclared watches, this would mean that they wanted to avoid paying taxes. So is this not smuggling? What should the customs officers do if the state loses revenue? [passage indistinct]

According to KAOH SANTEPHEAP newspaper, an UNTAC official was arrested by our customs officials on a charge of smuggling watches. I have not yet raised this issue with Akashi. [passage indistinct] Of course, everything imported by UNTAC is tax-exempt. But the watches are later handed over to merchants or buyers after they arrive in warehouses. The merchants then put those watches on sale at the market for only 40,000 riels. Therefore, the issue of the watches creates two problems: first, the state has lost taxes that it is supposed to collect, and second, honest merchants will be affected. They will incur losses because their watches cannot be sold. However, when they [UNTAC officials] are arrested, they become very angry. [words indistinct], I really do not know what to do. They are supposed to give a law course to the others, but instead they have violated the law themselves.

A political party claims that we have declared war with UNTAC. In fact, I have never declared war with UNTAC. The only thing I have done is to request UNTAC to act lawfully. They accuse us of being corrupt, but they teach us to commit corruption and they, themselves, have also resorted to corrupt practices. A political party has imported nearly 50 cars without paying taxes [words indistinct]. How can I exempt the cars from taxes?

All the time I have been accused of blocking UNTAC officials' activities, violating their rights. But they should know that SOC officials [words indistinct) have to pay taxes as well. However, most UNTAC officials are good people. I would like to thank UNTAC policemen who have ensured protection for me in many places. [passage indistinct] A number of UNTAC staff say they need to save money to send to their girlfriends back home. They have even exchanged their radios for pudding. As for our people, they have also created problems shortly after the UNTAC arrival. Sincerely, I never hate UNTAC [passage indistinct]. They are selling at the central market video cameras, radios, cassette recorders that they have bought from the duty free shop. So what will happen to legitimate merchants?

I have been accused of declaring war with UNTAC when I only talk about this issue. [words indistinct] they talk about social justice, about the suppression of corrupt practices, about freedom, but they want to shut my mouth, they do not want me to enjoy my freedom. It is impossible. It is not that easy. They can do that with someone else, but not with Hun Sen. [passage indistinct] also I want UNTAC to know about its officials and understand why I seized those imported radios and equipment without proper authorizations. We still detain the equipment because they have not yet declared the contents of those boxes. In the past, there were some political parties that smuggled heroin into the country. So I also have the duty to look into this problem carefully.

The SOC has never made any threats. The compatriots are never forced at gunpoint to come here. You come by yourselves because you want to listen to me. Anyway, I just want to clarify some issues [words indistinct]. I want Akashi to know that various political parties have not been able to gather people at their meetings. So they are accusing me, our administration, our police of threatening and warning the people not to attend their rallies. And when tens of thousands of people attend Hun Sen's meetings, we are accused of [words indistinct]. I am really confused, actually. So I plead with the compatriots to protect me by telling those parties: You should keep your mouth shut [words indistinct]. We want to see Hun Sen, who is our grandchild or our son.

I only make a short introduction to ask other political parties to say something in the right way because the people are not that stupid. Concerning another issue, those parties complain that the people [words indistinct] our police are intimidating them. So in light of the complaint, I would like to raise two cases. In Prey Veng province, a political party put up their posters on the walls of a person's house. The owner told that party's members not to affix them, saying: I allow no party to glue posters on my walls. But one of the party members replied: I do not glue them on your chest, in any case. The man rushed into his house and took out a machete. Seeing the big knife, those people then run away, anyway. With that incident, we were also accused of intimidating them. It was the people who threatened them, because they violated their rights. And at the Kampot provincial town market, a party put up its posters on the walls of a cigarette stall. On that day, no one came and bought cigarettes from that stall. The owner wondered why, and later she realized that it was because the posters with a stupa logo had been affixed on the walls of her stall. She then took off the posters and put them under her bed. Later, that party's members came forward and asked the stall owner why their posters were removed [words indistinct], saying: I did not glue them on your eyebrows. Suddenly, that lady took out her kitchen knife and threatened them. They then reported the incident to UNTAC officials who afterward asked the lady to return the posters to them. However, we were also accused of intimidating them. This was not true. It was the people using their rights. They cannot just violate the people's rights and forbid the latter from using those rights.

Our party members have also been beaten in unprovoked attacks at public places, under the trees. So how can I know who is tearing off their posters. And sometimes, it was their own members who shredded the posters. Now I order the police to help guard their posters. However, [words indistinct] cannot be protected. Look! posters are affixed on every single tree and everywhere [words indistinct]. Do we have enough policemen? No. If our policemen stand guard for the posters, we will certainly be accused of beclouding the posters [words indistinct].

In the past, when they held rallies, we and UNTAC staff went there to ensure security for them. It was the same as UNTAC troops protecting us here. UNTAC is duty-bound to insure security and prevent different parties from shooting at each other. UNTAC is responsible for the protection. [Passage indistinct]. And when no one attended their rallies, they accused us of placing our police there. (?However, if something happens), we will be accused of not ensuring security for them. But if no people take part in their meetings, we will be accused of installing police there. I do not know how to please them. I am going to ask for a clarification from Akashi this evening. What does he want me to do? When I do not provide protection, a party [words indistinct] and another lobs grenades. They then blame me. So what should I do? When I insure protection, they say I prevent the people from celebrating the new year. This is really a very difficult issue.

Somehow, whenever they say we make a threat, it is they who make the threat. For instance, they threaten and forbid the people from listening to Hun Sen's statements on radio, wearing the shirt with the CPP emblem. [passage indistinct] When a grenade is lobbed, we are accused of doing that. However, now we have already collected clear evidence of the grenade hurling. FUNCINPEC generals have joined our party one after the other, such as Lieutenant Generals (Su Kimsun) and (Kan Rat). And many others will come later. [passage indistinct] Now I do not want to reveal the names of those parties anymore. And when I say this or that party, I think that everyone knows the party.

Revered clergy and beloved compatriots: There are some issues that I need to discuss with you today. We have conducted our election campaign for two weeks so far. [passage indistinct] We just want to clarify that among the 20 political parties, only the CPP that has struggled to save the people from the genocidal regime. [passage indistinct] When our people [words indistinct], nobody dared show his face to (?conduct the struggle). It was only the CPP that [words indistinct]. Over the past 14 years, no party has participated in the national construction [words indistinct]. (?They say) Hun Sen has a Vietnamese head but a Cambodian body. Hun Sen is a Vietnamese puppet. Hun Sen is incapable. [passage indistinct] Why do we need to seek a political solution? [passage indistinct] Now I wish to talk about the issue that has emerged in order to enable us to see who is responsible for disaster and who has created problems that we are striving to solve everyday. Where have the problems begun? [passage indistinct] The problems started with the military coup staged by Lon Nol to topple HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The coup was the origin of the Cambodian division and war. [passage indistinct] They are all in the same basket. Now they are political party leaders who are insulting us. [passage indistinct] If there was no Lon Nol-led coup d'etat [words indistinct] because back then the Khmer Rouge numbered little more than 1,000.

In the era of the samdech [prince], the number of the Khmer Rouge members was 3,000 at most. There were no [words indistinct], Hu Yun, Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Son Sen, Ieng Thirit [words indistinct]. They were no more than 3,000 at that time. [words indistinct] and the grandmothers, grandfathers would not have known the clear rice soup, would not have worked in the rice fields, and would not have lost their children. It is the Lon Nol regime that must be held responsible, not the CPP of Heng Samrin, Chea Sim, and Hun Sen. And after the military coup, we were divided into two groups. We were all war hostages. We were innocent [words indistinct]. Cambodia was split into two parts: One was controlled by the Lon Nol government of the Khmer Republic, and the other was administered by the Kampuchean National United Front headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk. Where should the people in both the Lon Nol-controlled region and the region controlled by the front that was later ruled by the Khmer Rouge go? Those under the Lon Nol regime, if they did not serve in the Lon Nol army or shout "long live" to Lon Nol, would be arrested, jailed, or tortured. At that time, students were also forced to serve in the army. So the students or the Lon Nol troops should not be blamed, because all of them were war hostages. However, we should determine which one of the leaders was responsible. When the leaders fought between themselves, it would be us who should [passage indistinct]. After the Khmer Rouge became fully strong and after they joined the front, (?they asked the samdech and Samdech Pen Nouth [Sihanouk's former top adviser] to stay overseas) and they controlled the forces in the interior. And what happened after victory? Our compatriots, including military officers and rank and file of Marshal Lon Nol as well as our people in Phnom Penh and various provinces, who thought that the Khmer Rouge were Cambodian—we never thought that they would massacre the Cambodians—laid down arms. [Passage indistinct]

We never thought that after the front arrived, we would have been shot at or chased out of cities. [passage indistinct] Some of our sick compatriots who were receiving treatments in hospital were forced to leave. Later, those people miserably died one after the other. We should never forget that event, no matter what. Our compatriots were very happy to see the front of Samdech Euv [prince father] arrive [words indistinct]. But they expelled all of them from cities, and they did not allow the samdech to return home, arguing that—as the samdech has recalled—they were afraid that the prince would catch diseases. In the end, after deporting all the people from cities, they brought the samdech in, then detained him.

That was the policy of genocide implemented by Pol Pot. As you can see, a grandmother over there is still weeping because she has lost all of her children. The majority of people have lost their children, brothers, sisters, relatives, friends. We were under a genocidal regime, a genocidal regime. And Buddhist monks were killed and defrocked. So the compatriots have already seen how cruel the genocidal regime was. They executed our parents, brothers, sisters [words indistinct].

Given that situation, it was asked whether the Pol Pot regime should be attacked and overthrown or should be kept. When Pol Pot killed us, we prayed to Tevoda [supernatural being] for our survival. By the way, I would like to let our compatriots know that only the CPP has adopted Tevoda as its logo. No party has this symbol. The other parties have adopted as their symbol an elephant head—not a whole elephant—a cow, a stupa, a book, [words indistinct]. There a lot of parties, I cannot remember all of them. There are scores of parties that have used the word "democracy" for their names, such as Democrat Party, Neutral Democratic Party of Cambodia, Republic Democracy Party, Democracy and Development Party, and so on. [passage indistinct] In the polpotist era, if you dared complain that you were still hungry, you would certainly be sent aboard an oxen cart to the killing field. So never mind about conducting a political struggle. You can only take part in the elections under the SOC regime. On the contrary, under the Pol Pot regime, [words indistinct] you would be executed. [passage indistinct].

In 1979, if we did not ask for help from Vietnam, could we have liberated our country? [passage indistinct] And if we were only liberated in 1985, we would have all died. [passage indistinct] There were only two choices: first, if we used only our own forces, we would need 15 years to liberate our country. Second, [words indistinct]. So we decided to call on Vietnam to help us in the liberation. We did not care about the insult against us. [words indistinct] the people in Eastern Europe, such German, [word indistinct], Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland also needed allied forces to set them free from Hitler. So the call for foreign troops' support for liberating the people [passage indistinct]. Also the Khmer Rouge themselves used to call for the Vietnamese forces to help them.

We talk about historical facts; it is like the sun, which cannot be hidden with the palm of a hand.

Now we have clearly seen that had we not relied on Vietnamese liberating troops, we would have never survived to this day. It is difficult [passage indistinct]. It is like in Cambodian proverb: When sick, a patient promises to offer to the spirit an elephant; when getting better, the patient offered only (?an egg). This is what we say in Cambodian meaning that during the most difficult period, we promised everything in order to survive; but when things got better, [passage indistinct].

This is the problem I would like to recall. At that time we had to rely on Vietnam. At that time, was it only the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen group that relied on Vietnam, or was there anybody else? KAOH SANTEPHEAP yesterday wrote an article. I do not support this paper but I also do not oppose it. But I thank this paper for writing [words indistinct] as I said the other day. [Passage indistinct] The other day KAOH SANTEPHEAP wrote about the border between the Kompong Cham and (?Kandal) Provinces. [passage indistinct] I knew about that through this newspaper. [passage indistinct] but I have not threatened it. A political party, that has not yet won the election, has already threatened to maltreat KAOH SANTEPHEAP; apparently the paper's director has been threatened with assassination. KAOH SANTEPHEAP readers will not be able to read this paper again if the CPP is gone because the paper's director will be the first to be eliminated.

Yesterday, KAOH SANTEPHEAP talked about (?getting rid of) Vietnam. [Passage indistinct] Vietnam is not very happy when [passage indistinct]. Now, in the 1970's, who else asked for Vietnam's help? Lon Nol, the prince, and Khi? all relied on Vietnam. This is the truth. This is it. Lon Nol asked for help from South Vietnam, the Saigion administration [passage indistinct]; they came through National Route 1. People living on the eastern part of Kompong Cham Province, Snuol, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, and Neak Luong knew the South Vitenamese troops. Why did the They came to help Lon Nol. As for the troops of the front for the liberation of southern Vietnam, called the Vietcong, they also came to Cambodia. What for? To help the prince and Khieu Samphan. This is the story. So, asking for Vietnam's help is not a new story. For example in 1979 when it was so necessary, nobody wanted to ask for Vietnam's help. It was necessary; otherwise everyone would die. Let me say this: Between 1970 and 1975, the help of both Vietnams was asked in order to seize power. I would like to ask for forgiveness from his highness because I am only analyzing this through logic, political views, and philosophy.

So, in the conflict between Lon Nol and the front, Lon Nol asked [words indistinct] to prevent attacks from the front. As for the front, it asked for help from another Vietnamese side to fight and topple Lon Nol. So, there is a difference when we asked for help in 1979; we did it to survive. Let's just say it frankly. If Vietnam did not come, we would have died. This is the essence of the assistance. For this reason, let me talk a bit about this.

We are now accused of having a Vietnamese head and a Cambodian body. So KAOH SANTEPHEAP said those who also asked for Vietnam's help must have got a Vietnamese body and Cambodian head, if not a Vietnamese head and Cambodian body. This is the story. So in the end [words indistinct] because compatriots are aware that if we did not fight Pol Pot we would not have survived [passage indistinct]. Various political parties should clearly answer this: Were those fighting Pol Pot right or wrong? Now we are told we were wrong; that is why we are called puppet regime [words indistinct] and so on. However, our people say that Heng Samrin, Chea Sim, and Hun Sen did the right thing to topple Pol Pot and that they do not want this regime to return because if this regime does so, there would be nothing left.

Let me talk about Vietnam's stay for 10 years. I would like to inform you that Vietnam's initial idea was to stay only one year in Cambodia: attack Pol Pot in 1979 and withdraw in 1980. I myself went to see Le Duc Tho, who was a major Vietnam's [words indistinct] in Saigon. I said you cannot withdraw your troops in 1980 because Cambodia does not have sufficient strength; if you withdraw, Pol Pot would come back. Why did we keep Vietnamese troops and why did we build our army? We were accused of keeping Vietnamese troops and of recruiting an army. What about the other side's troops? Where were they recruited from? Let us try to find the root cause of this; why it is this way. If there is no fire, there is no smoke. There is a cause and there is a result. When did the story start?

After Pol Pot was toppled, had there been no attack against the people, Vietnam could go back; there was no need for Vietnam to stay. However, Pol Pot continued to attack, along with support from his two allies, the groups of Son Sann and FUNCINPEC. The other side kept attacking us. Compatriots are aware of this. So, if we did not oppose it, Pol Pot would be back. This is the story. What should we do? After liberation, the situation should be taken seriously. After the country is liberated, it should be defended to prevent Pol Pot from returning. What was the use of Vietnam's attack and immediate withdrawal allowing Pol Pot to return? If Pol Pot returned, all these things—communal life, no circulation of money, and people taken away and killed—remain the same. So we had to oppose it and asked that Vietnamese trooops stayed; the latter gradually withdrew since 1982 and were fully withdrawn in 1989 because we had enough forces by then. This is the reason why we asked Vietnam to stay temporarily in Cambodia.

Now let us talk about whether we should defend this? We ask ourselves this: Pol Pot fighting us; do we need to prevent Pol Pot from coming back? All of us said yes, we have to do this. In that case, what should be done? If we keep Vietnamese troops, others say Vietnam is committing aggression. If we want Vietnam to go back, we have got to have troops. This is the story. This is why we have to recruit troops. Without troops, Pol Pot will be back. Pol Pot has guns. Are we supposed to go and bite Pol Pot? Do we fight with sticks while the other side has guns? We have to build an army; we have to have police, schools, and an economy. We have to build the economy.

I would like to inform you that all countries have an army, regardless of whether there is a war or not. During the time of Prince Norodom Sihanouk there was no war but there was an army. Many people served as soldiers—what were called 18-month soldiers. In the United States, there is a story which I already talked about in Kampot. The current U.S. President is Bill Clinton. He did not serve in the army because at that time the United States had to send troops to fight in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos; most importantly in Vietnam. At that time, President Clinton opposed the war in Vietnam; he did not serve as a soldier to fight in Vietnam. During the election campaign, the Bush side accused Clinton of not fulfilling his duty as a U.S. citizen. In other words, he was not a soldier fighting in Vietnam. This is the story.

So, every country the world over has to have an army. The work is divided up among people. For example, during the prince's time, it was an 18-month service in the army; it was alternated among people. Officers are different. Military officers [words indistinct] remain in the army for life [passage indistinct]. For our country, when Pol Pot is attacking us, if we do not defend ourselves, do we agree to be killed by Pol Pot? We have only two choices. We do not need to (?recruit) troops to fight back against Pol Pot and his FUNCINPEC and Son Sann allies and let these people bring back the genocidal regime [words indistinct] to eliminate religions and money? This is the first choice? Do we agree to this? All of us will certainly answer no. We have survived and come this far, we are not willing to let this die. [Words indistinct] if this is the case, there is only the second choice left. Among 8 million people, we recruited 50,000 to 60,000 to serve as troops to fight and defend the 8 million. Is this wrong? Are we in the wrong?

Let me tell you that if Pol Pot had not attacked us, if Son Sann and FUNCINPEC had not attacked us, it would not have been necessary to recruit many soldiers; 30 or 40,000 troops would be sufficient; there is no need for 100,000 troops. What about the Khmer Rouge who recruited soldiers in the jungles? The Khmer Rouge, FUNCINCPEC, and Son Sann ought to know; they recruited soldiers to attack schools and destroy railway tracks and bridges. These people have recruited soldiers to destroy, to seize power, and to create the genocidal regime. We only ask to recruit soldiers to defend the lives of 8 millon people. Are we wrong? If we do not do this, who would be protecting us? If we do not want Vietnamese to stay in Cambodia, we have to let them go back home; if they go back [words indistinct] defend ourselves. So, I would like to raise this issue for compatriots to ponder because we have been accused of recruiting soldiers for over 10 years. What about you? You recruited troops in camps to burn down schools and monasteries, (?and) people's villages; people got killed. You caused the destruction. What do you have to say? You started this. Compatriots should be aware of this. We should be angry with Pol Pot, FUNCINPEC, and Son Sann [words indistinct] and not the SOC.

The Pol Pot regime had to be toppled; we did this using both our forces and those of Vietnam. The one we should be angry with is Pol Pot. For 14 years Pol Pot wanted to come back. We opposed this; had we not done this, everyone would have died. Thus, we should be angry with those who start the war from the border: Pol Pot, FUNCINPEC, and Son Sann; they are the ones we should be angry with, and not the SOC. Now we cannot (?demobilize) troops; we have demobilized 38,000 already; we cannot do more than this. Why? Because the Khmer Rouge are now attacking us; they have attacked Vietnamese residents, Cambodians, and even UNTAC. A few days ago, some were killed. [passage indistinct] do not talk about the people in Phnom Penh, Kompong Cham, Pursat, and Battambang, even those in Kandal Province cannot stay [words indistinct]. This is the issue.

What to do? [passage indistinct] we have to do, to restore Buddhism [passage indistinct]. We have to build schools, from primary, secondary, to higher education. [words indistinct] We have been accused of being illegitimate? If we are illegitimate, doctors coming out of schools these past few years are also illegitimate. Our regime was said to be illegitimate [words indistinct] down with the Hun Sen regime. Hun Sen regime has been called illegitimate. So, I would like to inform you that teachers, professors, doctors, and engineers coming out of SOC schools are all illegitimate. Now [words indistinct] this and that; however, if they say that the Phnom Penh administration is illegitimate (?educational staff] are also illegitimate. Certificates issued are also illegitimate. [passage indistinct]

[Words indistinct] the SOC and CPP will certainly win [passage indistinct]. However, it also made me laugh. Along with saying that the Phnom Penh regime is illegitimate and corrupt [words indistinct] transferred from camps with diplomas [words indistinct]. That was why Hor Namhong said: If you know that those guys are illegitimate and corrupt, why do you need to ask for equivalency diplomas issued by these corrupt people? [passage indistinct]

Now we have come this far. If we did not build schools [words indistinct] bridges, [words indistinct] until when should we wait? Now these people have come and said that we should vote for them, and that when they win, they will build bridges [passage indistinct]. It is not different from a doctor telling a patient: You remain sick; once I win the election, I will give you an injection. Suppose I die before you win the election, what will happen? If you do not win, what can I do. Should I wait for your bridge?

[Passage indistinct] The fact that the number of teachers has been reduced from 70,000 to 40,000 is [words indistinct]. The percentage of students going from the first to the second level of education are 23 percent. [passage indistinct] Let me inform you that on this issue we have to think carefully because we have been cheated many times before.

Some have promised that if they are given assistance to win in the election, [passage indistinct]. We have not only revived the country but made things happen in front of your eyes. Each family has changed from having nothing [words indistinct] with black lower garment, black shirt, and a tatty scarf, with no shoes; some have shoes made of car tires [mostly indistinct passage about lack of food and hardship during Pol Pot era]. From bare hands, we now have [words indistinct] motorcycles, [words indistinct], some with radios. Radio and television sets are more numerous than before; there are more houses covered with tiles. What else are we expected to do? If we do not take, we would be accused of being brainless. When we make efforts to acquire things, we are accused of being corrupt. This is the story. We ride motorcycles and are accused of beng corrupt. We walk barefoot with no shoes; we are accused [words indistinct]. It is hard to please [words indistinct].

[Words indistinct] an elderly man has told me a story. [words indistinct] It was about two wise men, who are friends and stay in the same monastery. (?They were talking about who has more merits). The two men eventually died. One [words indistinct] reborn as god Indra [one of the main gods in Hinduism ad Buddhism] living in heaven; the other—who did not behave when he was alive, for example pilfering monastery's property—was born again as a leper. [Words indistinct] begging for a living. Then, god Indra thought of his old friend; he then opened his magic eyes and saw his friend living as a beggar. [passage indistinct] he was cured of leprosy. [passage indistinct] The man became district governor, and then provincial governor. [passage indistinct] His old friend, god Indra asked whether he wanted to visit heaven; he said yes. Once in heaven, he saw that the place is so nice and so are Indra's wives; there was the first, second, and third; there were many wives. The former (?beggar) thought to himself: I should not go back down to the world of humans; it is nicer here with Indra. He then said to Indra: My friend, I do not want to return to the world of humans; please spare me half of your residence and some of your wives. [passage indistinct] Then Indra said: Let us do this. You go back to the world of humans first and then return. Indra then dispatched an angel to accompany this king to the (?original) place. And that is the end of the story.

So the moral is this [words indistinct] hardship during the Pol Pot time when people said it does not matter who comes, just help us. However, once [passage indistinct]. Some have relatives in Prek Russei. [passage indistinct] Now we have been promised better things again. [Words indistinct], greedy to the point of sharing Indra's palace and wives. Watch out, when Pol Pot is back [passage indistinct].

The Khmer Rouge have attacked not only Vietnamese residents; a few days ago, UNTAC troops fled their positions to our garrison in Amleang [words indistinct]. We would like to ask the Khmer Rouge's allies: if the SOC does not [words indistinct]; the SOC does not fight [words indistinct]. Is this something to blame us? For example the Khmer Rouge attacked the people in Prek Kdam and Ponhea Loe; if SOC troops are not dispatched to help [passage indistinct]. What should we do now? Compatriots, please give me your views. Should I demobilize the army and the police or should these be kept to provide protection to compatriots? Otherwise there will be robbery. Even compatriots in Takeo, Kampot, Prey Veng, and Svay Rieng [words indistinct] asked only that the government assist in (?eliminating) thieves. Once arrested, they (?turned out to be) members of political parties; these people have been robbing people, stealing motorcycles and cars, cattle and buffalo. Compatriots are right. When there was only us, compatriots say that there were not many thieves; there were thieves but not many. When there are a lot of parties, there are plenty of thieves. This is why this new year, people tend not to leave their houses or to go out. Why is this? This is not because of the Hun Sen administration. This is not because of Heng Samrin and (?Chea Sim). When there was only one party, old and new bank notes were all in circulation, the [words indistinct], the 5-riel, the 20-riel, and the 10-riel notes. When there are so many parties [change of thought] because of the destruction by various parties.

So, this issue [passage indistinct] we have so many things to do. There are so many things. The CPP needs to continue its historic mission [words indistinct] which it has not yet fulfilled. There are still many things to do to develop the country [words indistinct], mission to build and to prevent the Pol Pot regime's return. [passage indistinct] you have to realize that. You cannot oppose the Khmer Rouge. You have to realize this. Even the prince, your father, lost five sons and 14 grandchildren to the Khmer Rouge. [passage indistinct] The Khmer Rouge have never been cheated; they have never allowed themselves to be cheated. Do not nurture any hope of winning against the Khmer Rouge. If the Khmer Rouge are allowed to have the upper hand, it is alright [passage indistinct]. There are parties that have said that if they win the election they will (?cooperate) with the Khmer Rouge [passage indistinct]. Do not die without fighting back. We should die through fighting back against the Khmer Rouge [passage indistinct] if it gets to that point, Hun Sen will resign and will not stay [words indistinct] dare not (?be) with people, holding people's hands because of fear of being poisoned, afraid of being embraced by people and afraid of embracing people. If it gets to that point I will resign, I will say goodbye. [passage indistinct] Now if I am hated, just a knive; someone coming close to me and embracing me, with a hidden knife on him. I am not afraid [words indistinct] I trust compatriots do not want to kill Hun Sen. Do not talk about killing Hun Sen, even [words indistinct] Hun Sen [words indistinct] pity on Hun Sen because I have never done any bad deeds [words indistinct]. Instead I have done good deeds at many places [passage indistinct].

[Words indistinct] provincial committee, the provincial city committee, and compatriots present here, thanks for workers who have produced this result today. Without you [words indistinct] is it not? [passage indistinct] will you vote for the CPP, for Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, [passage indistinct]. Are you sure? [words indistinct] only one vote. You have to tick the right place, the angel emblem [words indistinct]. What party? The angel party, the CPP. If you do not know the CPP, say the angel party. And if the angel party is not familiar, it is the party of Heng Samrin, Chea Sim [words indistinct] in order to tick the right one. Now let us do it. UNTAC law requires that you (?tick) [passage indistinct]. On behalf of the CPP, I pledge to do everything for the rebirth, stability, development, and freedom of compatriots.

Finally, I would like to wish all, the clergy and compatriots, longevity, social prestige, happiness, strength, and enlightenment. Thank you.

Hun Sen Speaks at Kompong Speu Rally 24 Apr

BK2704072193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 24 Apr 93

[Speech by Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, at a mass meeting at Ampe Phnum recreation site in Kompong Speu on 24 April—recorded]

[Text] I would like to thank General (Su Kimsun) for (?informing) our compatriots [words indistinct]. This is a reality. I will (?call) FUNCINPEC [passage indistinct]. Our country is going through [change of thought] facing the danger of the genocidal regime's return. This regime has already come under the label of the Kampuchean National United Front led by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk. We do not accuse the prince of creating the genocidal regime. However, our struggle for national liberation was usurped by the Khmer Rouge who set up the genocidal regime. Now the prince has left [passage indistinct]. Just now I received a letter from teacher (Mech Savari) [passage indistinct]. The Cambodian People's Party [CPP] is the only party that dares to guarantee that the genocidal regime cannot return.

Let me inform you that it is true [words indistinct] sporadic fighting and robbery here and there will continue to occur. However, there is no way the Pol Pot regime will be allowed to set up a regime of collective work and collective eating; to take people away to be killed; to eliminate religion; to close schools and markets; and to eliminate currency. The Khmer Rouge [passage indistinct]. There is nothing new. [words indistinct] the Khmer Rouge attack Cambodians, Vietnamese, and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

However, we will gradually dissolve the Khmer Rouge through the government [passage indistinct]. There is a consensus [passage indistinct]. If the CPP loses, I do not know what to promise. Only after the election will they make a report. After that the Khmer Rouge will, step by step, be dealt with, through measures to oppose economic sabotage, namely (?national development). So, what is most important is that we [words indistinct] to preserve what we have built over the past more than 14 years [words indistinct]. This is an important point. However, after the election and if I lost [passage indistinct] even your lives will be lost, when the Khmer Rouge come [words indistinct]. The Khmer Rouge are not afraid; they have even attacked UNTAC; some have been killed already. It is only for the CPP that the Khmer Rouge still have some fear because the CPP have (?horns) and strength to repress the Khmer Rouge [words indistinct]. When we attacked the Khmer Rouge we were accused of violating the Paris agreement; now [UNTAC] have retreated from Amleang into the garrison [words indistinct]; I said let them come in and help protect them. Japanese UNTAC fled from (?Bati) [words indistinct] to the Takeo garrison; (?I told the commander to provide protection); we are protecting UNTAC and not UNTAC protecting us. [words indistinct] defend everyone.

As General (Su Kimsun) has said just now, one is resisting and another one is instigating; it is the latter which is (?difficult) [words indistinct] in Phnom Penh, we have to defend them; they even [passage indistinct]. The war is created by insecurity [words indistinct] and instigation to foment panic carried out by people like parties [words indistinct] the Khmer Rouge, the parties that are allies of the Khmer Rouge. These parties go round fomenting unrest. Unrest in our country is not like unrest in France. Once there is unrest, it is very difficult in our Cambodia.

[Words indistinct] get land for building school and make it their own; take over public land for building this or that. When the state authority try to solve the problem, people reach for their knives and axes. This is the story.

However, the dangerous issue is that of ownership. For example, this person took over that person's land; one person took over another person's house. A brick house has been built; they want the owner chased out. Will theowner aee to leave? No. This is it. These people say that when they win, they will take over people's houses in Phnom Penh and various provinces; they will take back their land. You try and get it back and see if you are not hacked to pieces? I once told Son Sann in France. I said: Your Excellency, do not come over from France and chase people out of their houses; even I, prime minister in power with the protection of soldiers and police, if I chase people out of their houses, I would be cut up too. Try, if you want to see what happens. Even a small—let alone a masonry house or one with a tiled-roof—try to chase the owner out, you will be hacked. This is why the CPP has adopted a policy of maintaining the currrent ownership situation; stay put where you are [words indistinct]; (?you can take over land, house with a tiled-roof, a masonry house; it is up to you. You can sell it if you want; it is your right. [passage indistinct].

Concerning teachers' salaries, let me inform you, the other day, on... [changes thought] [words indistinct] deputy director of the (?agricultural college), asked a question through the newspaper REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA, a private paper. The question was: From now to the election, will teachers' salary be regularly paid? In particular, after the election, who will pay teachers? Will salary continue to be available?

This was a very good question. I would like to inform you that from now to the election, there is a problem about salary [words indistinct]; teachers will get their salary [passage indistinct]. By the first week of May, the April salary will be paid. [passage indistinct] Usually salary is paid at the end of the month; but the latest is the first week of May when the previous month salary will be paid. This are technical problems, about cash flow, and so on. But after the election, who will be paying salaries? The Phnom Penh administration? There will not be a government until three months after the election [words indistinct] who will pay? Let me inform you that the SOC is still the one who pays; no one else will do this. On the contrary, efforts have been made to block aid. Otherwise we would have been able to raise teachers' salaries this April-May. Why is this? Ranariddh, Son Sann, along with the Khmer Rouge, have opposed the World Bank providing $63 million to us.

So, after the election and before the establishment of a new government, will there be any salary raise? Let me say that it will depend on the budget situation; I cannot make any clear promise that there will be a pay raise before the establishment of the new government. However, the current salary will certainly be paid. Our party, despite the lack of the World Bank's help, keeps moving forward. Some financial experts [words indistinct] to find it ourselves. However, after the election, the possibility of a pay raise does exist. SNC [Supreme National Council] members Khieu Samphan, Ranariddh, and Son Sann will no longer be around to be a nuisance. The new government will sign and get the money direct from the World Bank.

Now, we are busy with the people's living standards, rice seeds, fertilizers, teachers' salary. If we do not pay teachers, can our children go to school? No. Just look at these people, calling themselves nationalists; they blocked the World Bank's aid for teachers and hospitals. They squeeze Hun Sen's throat but it is the the Cambodian people who suffer. Furthermore, the have destroyed the Riel currency, making the currency's value go down. Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge, plus FUNCINPEC and Son Sann, are the destroyers.

Yesterday, the deputy minister of the Council of Ministers' office handed me a batch of bank notes in exchange for [words indistinct] fake dollars. Fake dollars were printed to buy the Riel notes to devalue our currency. [Words indistinct] for power, they are not afraid of doing (?bad things). [words indistinct] destroying the economy and the Riel currency; who is affected by this? It is our teachers, our children, and our people who use these bank notes. Earlier, 100,000 Riel can buy one Chi [weight unit equivalent to 3.75 grams] of gold; now 150,000 are needed. Who are the losers? It is the people who have Riel notes in their pockets. And who is the destroyer? The Khmer Rouge, FUNCINPEC, and Son Sann; it is this team. To win the election, they are not afraid of [words indistinct] (?even wrong instead of right things). [Passage indistinct]

Now, (?the rainy season is approaching); so, along with thinking about taking part in the election, do not forget our ricefields and draft animals. Our buffalo should be well looked after; they should be given a lot to eat; grass starts to grow now. Soon it will be time to plow the land. [words indistinct] The government is thinking about this. The Agriculture Ministry [words indistinct] has been ordered to buy [words indistinct]. However, others do not care; all they think about is how to win. For those who die, it is too bad. They are doing everything to topple Hun Sen and the Hun Sen's government, [words indistinct]. Now [words indistinct] when Hun Sen's throat is squeezed, it is the people who suffer. The people are not angry with Hun Sen but with the other party. What you are doing is certainly wrong.

They want the Khmer Rouge to attack so that we are involved in solving the problems of burned houses and burned schools. [passage indistinct] So, I ask compatriots to think carefully. [passage indistinct]

That is what I want to talk about. It is near lunch time for the venerables. Grandmothers, grandfathers, I would like to thank you very much [words indistinct]. I would like to tell (?elder borthers) that Ampe Phnum should not transformed into a killing field again. [Words indistinct] Ampe Phnum will become a tourist resort. [passage indistinct]

I would like to end now [words indistinct] listen to my speech [words indistinct]. Once again, on behalf of the CPP and the SOC Government, I would like to express thanks for the support, for the coming support given to us. Once more, may you enjoy the five Buddhist blessings of longevity, social prestige, happiness, strength, and enlightenment. [Applause]

Long live the CPP!

[chorus] Long live, long live.

Chea Sim Discusses Upcoming Elections

BK2204091193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] On the morning of 20 April, His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and chairman of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia [SOC], chaired a ceremony to open a hall at (Dei Speu) Monastery in Choam Chao Commune, Dangkao District, Phnom Penh city. Also taking part in the ceremony were Sim Ka, chairman of Phnom Penh City People's Committee; Min Khin, deputy religious minister; and many high-ranking government personnel.

This monastery hall is a new achievement built by Mrs. (Nhoek Buntha) with the assistance of generous persons in Phnom Penh city, monks of this monastery, and local Buddhist followers.

Speaking before our fraternal Buddhist followers there, Chea Sim sincerely praised the generosity of Mrs. (Nhoek Buntha) and all fraternal Buddhist followers in jointly building the hall, thus significantly contributing to development of religion and national society.

Chea Sim also spoke on positive changes in our SOC during the past 14 years thanks to the joint efforts of our authorities and people under the wise leadership of the CPP despite the fact that we started from scratch and had bad consequences left behind by the Pol Pot genocidal regime.

Chea Sim recalled the barbarous crimes committed against our people by the Pol Pot genocidal regime from 1975-78, saying that they were inhumane acts that all of us must not forget.

Concerning the coming elections, Chea Sim said that the election campaign has proceeded for over 10 days now. Various political parties, to woo the people into voting for them, went to places promising to do this and that for the people after they were elected. That was a deception and contrary to the CPP, which has all along helped, had close links to, and shared weal and woe with the people.

Chea Sim also spoke about our people's worry about the massacre committed by the Khmer Rouge rebels and their allies. He said that some FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party members recently left their party to join the CPP because they have come to realize that the FUNCINPEC Party and Mr. Son Sann's party are Khmer Rouge allies who are moving around to kill their own citizens and launch sabotage activities to destroy the upcoming elections. Therefore, all our people should make careful consideration before casting their votes. This is because if FUNCINPEC is elected, the Khmer Rouge will certainly return to power. Only by voting for the CPP can we block the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime and defend all our achievements and the people's current legal rights and freedoms.

Indonesia

Suharto Agrees in Principle to 'Growth Triangle'

BK2804032593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Apr 93 p 6

[Text] Indonesia has agreed in principle to the proposed "Northern Growth Triangle", a tripartite economic zone comprising Thailand's southern provinces, Malaysia's Penang province and Indonesia's provinces in northern Sumatra.

Government spokesman Aphisit Wetchachiwa told a press conference in Jakarta yesterday that the agreement was reached during a meeting between Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and Indonesian President Suharto.

Mr Aphisit said Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia would further explore ways of establishing the growth triangle, which was first proposed by Malaysia.

He added that the Asian Development Bank would provide funds for a feasibility study.

On this issue, Indonesian State Secretariat Minister Murdiono stated in a separate press conference following the talks that a study was currently being conducted on the growth triangle idea.

Mr Murdiono said a special envoy of Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed was likely to visit Jakarta next month to discuss the matter with Suharto and ministers in Jakarta.

On the Cambodian problem, the two leaders agreed they would do their best to get all Cambodian factions, including the Khmer Rouge, to take part in elections there next month, Mr Aphisit said.

The spokesman said the two sides expressed concern over recent developments in Cambodia, particularly the pullout of the Khmer Rouge from the electoral process.

Thailand hoped that, as co-chairman with France of the Paris Peace Conference on Cambodia, Indonesia could play a role encouraging a settlement of the Cambodian problems in accordance with the Paris agreement, Mr Aphisit said.

The two sides agreed that the elections in Cambodia should be held as scheduled.

The Thai Prime Minister and President Suharto also discussed the ASEA Free Trade Area (AFTA).

Under the scheme, ASEAN member countries started the gradual implementation of a new trade tariff list covering manufactured and processed agricultural products on January 1.

Mr Chuan informed President Suharto of Burma's desire to be an observer in ASEAN.

Apart from the meeting between the two leaders, there were also meetings of economic and political groups of the two countries, Mr Aphisit said.

Mr Chuan yesterday addressed a luncheon at the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in which he hailed the role of the private sector in the successful economic development of both countries.

He then left for nearby Bogor to visit a natural rubber research centre.

Mr Chuan will meet the Secretary-General of the Jakarta-based Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Ajit Singh, and address a press conference before flying home today.

Thai Premier Discusses Triangle

BK2804074793 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] The Asian Development Bank has agreed to extend aid for a feasibility study on the north growth triangle project comprising Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. Speaking at a news conference at the State Guest House this morning, Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said the north growth triangle comprising North Sumatera Province, Aceh Province, Northern Malaysia, and Southern Thai provinces was discussed with President Suharto. According to Chuan Likphai, members of his delegation held talks with their Indonesian counterparts; these were in addition to his talks with President Suharto.

[Begin Chuan recording in Thai fading into Indonesian translation by an unidentified reporter] Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said the topics discussed by the Thai and Indonesian delegations covered the enhancement of bilateral relations and regional cooperation. Talks between economic ministers of the two countries centered on economic cooperation, which aims primarily to increase trade and investments in various fields. According to Chuan Likphai, Indonesia and Thailand want to undertake joint investment, particularly in the processing of marine resources. Over 340 Thai fishing vessels are now operating in Indonesian waters. Indonesia, Chuan Likphai said, wants Thailand to increase investment in the electronics industry. Bilateral and regional cooperation among members of the Nonaligned Movement within the ASEAN context and the Cambodian problem were also discussed. [end recording]

The Thai prime minister later visited the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta soon after the press conference. Prime Minister Chuan Likphai hoped that fellow ASEAN members would further enhance their relations and cooperation and include the private sector in the development of the ASEAN Free Trade Area.

Laos

Australian Minister Calls on Leaders

BK2804102593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 24 Apr 93

[Text] This evening, Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received a courtesy call from a high-level Australian Government delegation led by Gordon Bilney, minister for development cooperation and Pacific island affairs, which is currently visiting Laos.

On this occasion, the delegation also called on Phao Bounnaphon, minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office, and Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR.

The meetings between the visiting Australian delegation and Lao leaders proceeded in a constructive atmosphere with talks focusing on various important issues on development and cooperation between the two countries as well as on Australian aid for the LPDR.

The Australian delegation will also visit the Kao Liao irrigation project [words indistinct], and the Mekong River bridge project linking Laos' capital of Vientiane and Thailand's Nong Khai Province. The Australian Government has provided aid worth U.S. $30,500,000 for this cooperation project.

The Gordon Bilney-led Australian delegation arrived in Laos on the morning of 24 April through the Tha Deua border checkpoint for a three-day visit to the country.

Discusses Cooperation, Departs

BK2704013293 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] Vientiane, April 26 (KPL)—A high ranking delegation of Australia led by the Honourable Gordon Bilney, minister for development cooperation and Pacific island affairs, left Vientiane today following its official 2-day visit to the Lao PDR.

During his stay here, Mr. Bilney called on Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon, Minister to the Prime

Minister's Office Mr. Phao Bounnaphon, and Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat.

The talks focused on the development of bilateral cooperation and Australian aid to Laos. In their discussions, the two sides focused on the consolidation of bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation between their two countries. Mr Bilney appreciated the Lao Government's successes in the implementation of its economic development plan.

Mr. Gordon Bilney and members of the delegation also visited [words indistinct] Kao Lieo irrigation project, the Lao-Australian heavy plant workshop of the Mekong (?bridge) construction site. The latter receives some thirty million dollars aid from Australia.

Economic Delegation Ends SRV Visit, Returns

BK2804105993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] An economic delegation of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] led by Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Board, has concluded an official visit to Vietnam. They returned to Vientiane capital at noon yesterday.

The delegation was warmly welcomed home by Oudom Khatthi-gna, lord mayor of Vientiane Municipality; Bui Van Thanh, Vietnamese charge d'affairs to Laos; and a number of high-ranking officials.

Khamphoui Keoboualapha's official working visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam began on 22 April. In the five-day visit, the high-level Lao delegation met and exchanged experiences with Vietnamese leaders and several prominent figures in the SRV Council of Ministers.

At each meeting, the guests and the hosts showed keen interest and confirmed that they would further improve and strengthen the long-standing glorious traditional solidarity and all-round cooperation of the two parties, governments, and peoples of Laos and Vietnam.

Before leaving Hanoi for home on 26 April, Deputy Prime Minister Khamphoui Keoboualapha and Phan Van Khai, deputy prime minister and head of the SRV Government's economic delegation, signed the minutes of the 15th session of the Laos-Vietnam Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic, Cultural, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation. The two also signed an agreement on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation for 1993 between the two countries. The signing was made in the presence of SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and a number of high-level officials of both sides.

Philippines

Speaker's Meeting With NDF 'Not Authorized' by NUC

HK2904053093 Quezon City MALAYA in English 29 Apr 93 p 1

[Report by Chit Estella]

[Text] Chairperson Haydee Yorac of the National Unification Commission [NUC] yesterday said the commission has not authorized a group of congressmen led by Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr to hold talks with leaders of the National Democratic Front [NDF] in the Netherlands.

Yorac also said Rep Jose Yap (Laban [People's Struggle], Tarlac), a member of the group, has ceased to be President Ramos' emissary to the NDF since his authority has been "terminated" by the creation of the NUC in September.

The NUC chief said the President has "expressedly, repeatedly and categorically" given the NUC the mandate to deal with rebel forces.

"There is, therefore, no reason for anyone to pretend he does not know this, whether from the side of the NDF or NUC," she said. "After the NUC was set up, there is no system of personal representation any more."

An NUC emissary, who is not connected with the commission or any government office, has already been sent to confer with NDF leaders, Yorac said.

De Venecia's office would "neither confirm nor deny" the Speaker's supposed meeting with NDF leaders, but admitted he had indeed gone to the Netherlands.

"Speaker De Venecia said he would report directly to President Ramos on the 2nd or 3rd of May following the President's return from China," a statement said.

It said De Venecia was set to leave The Hague Wednesday for Brussels.

The statement also said "De Venecia is an old high school classmate of (Luis) Jalandoni in Dela Salle College, class '51."

Jalandoni is vice chairman of the NDF. He has lived in self-exile in the Netherlands along with Jose Ma. Sison and several rebel leaders.

The Netherlands mission was not the first time a congressional initiative was taken in the peace process which was supposed to be the domain of the NUC.

Sources said the second round of exploratory talks with the Moro National Liberation Front in Indonesia last April 14-16 was a De Venecia project.

Manila Clarifies Meeting Status

HK2904025693 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Malacanang clarified today that Congressman Renato Yap has no authorization from the National Unification Commission [NUC] to negotiate with exiled National Democratic Front leaders Jose Maria Sison and Luis Jalandoni in The Netherlands. However, presidential spokesperson Annabel Abaya strongly denied reports that Yap had been removed from the NUC because of his trip to meet the leftist leaders. Abaya, during her meeting with NUC Chairman Haydee Yorac, said Yap made his own decision as a member of Congress to join the three-man congressional delegation which went to The Netherlands to convince Sison and Jalandoni to return home to participate in the peace process. Abaya stressed that Yorac controls the commission and knows what she is doing. Abaya added that President Fidel Ramos still has great confidence in Yorac.

Abaya said reports that Yap had been dismissed from the NUC were just bad efforts by some groups to create disunity within the commission. Abaya said such reports were false and that the NUC is still solid and unified.

Meanwhile, Jalandoni said a report about the alleged ouster of Yap as presidential peace emissary had reached the Netherlands. The NUC earlier claimed it had already relayed a report to the NDF leader. Jalandoni said that the NDF had no prior knowledge of this new development, contrary to Yorac's statement. Jalandoni also said that until the NDF receives a personal notice from President Ramos about Yap's ouster, the NDF will continue to recognize the congressman as an official representative of the Ramos administration.

Diplomats Warn Ramos on Meeting Libyan Minister

HK2904041693 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 29 Apr 93 p 12

[Report by Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] United States and Western diplomats have voiced cautionary warnings to their Philippine counterparts over the planned visit of Libyan Foreign Minister 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir to Manila and imply the Philippines could be working at cross purposes with the rest of the international community.

"There is movement in the United Nations on what to do next now that Libya has defied the will of the UN," a U.S. diplomat remarked.

The U.S., the United Kingdom, and France—three members of the UN Security Council—are insisting that Libya turn over two of its agents accused with the bombings of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland and a French UTA airliner. Libya has so far refused to comply with UN Council Resolutions No. 731 and 748. Those resolutions provided for arms and air travel embargoes and the reduction of diplomatic staffs.

Noting the fact that the Libyan official will be paying a courtesy call on President Ramos, a European diplomat said the move "could be interpreted as being 'soft' on Libya and would only encourage its intransigence."

The European diplomat also revealed that various member-states of the Organization of Islamic Conference had been warned against issuing a statement in support of Libya. "We won't tolerate anything less than full compliance with the resolutions," he said.

An Arab diplomat here said that various "compromise formulas" were being explored to resolve the issue. One approach involves Libya's giving up the two men for trial in a "neutral" country.

"That would still be unacceptable," another Western diplomat said.

Several Arab and Muslim diplomats voiced concern that Libya was being pushed too far, "al-Qadhdhafi has been lying low for some time now. Tripoli is no longer sponsoring terrorist groups. They (including the Moro National Liberation Front) have been asked to leave," one said.

Another complained of Western "double standard", observing that if "an Arab country doesn't comply with UN resolutions, the U.S. always reacts strongly, but ... Israel, which has repeatedly violated several UN resolutions, keeps getting away with it."

A Philippine diplomat said Mr. Ramos's planned meeting with the Libyan foreign minister was only "aimed at facilitating our national reconciliation program" and not out of any desire to be involved in an "imbroglio" of this nature.

IMF Said 'Pressuring' Government on New Taxes

HK2804113393 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] The IMF is now pressuring the government to impose additional taxes to close its revenue production gap. The proposal includes the expansion of the country's value-added tax coverage, a reduction in incentives that the Board of Investments is giving investors, and a one Philippine peso per liter increase in the existing fuel excise tax. The IMF also wants the government to decrease its spending by reducing local government funds. Following the deterioration of the second round of talks between the IMF and government negotiators, a third round is expected to be held during the last week of May or the first week of June.

Low Interest Rates Concern Foreign Creditors

HK2904044593 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 29 Apr 93 p 13

[Report by Meluchi A. Adriano]

[Text] Multilateral creditor agencies have expressed concern over a too drastic drop in interest rates, noting that this could lead to a margin squeeze for banks and less investments in government securities.

This was revealed by Central Bank (CB) Governor Jose L. Cuisia, Jr. in answer to queries on Government's monetary policy during a recent Senate committee hearing.

He indicated that while lower interest rates would certainly benefit depositors [as published] and encourage investments, there is also a danger in forcing these below present levels.

Mr. Cuisia said multilateral agencies are concerned that too low interest rates, as indicated by Treasury bill yields, could result in lower investments in these debt papers.

"Nobody would find T-bills attractive any more, and that worries not just the International Monetary Fund, but other multilateral agencies like the World Bank," Mr. Cuisia later told Business World.

T-bills, aside from being a venue for Government to borrow from the financial system, have also been used to mop up excess liquidity.

A manageable liquidity level is one of the bench marks used by multilateral lending agencies to assess an economy's health.

Moreover, pushing down interest rates could put banks in the red.

An earlier Business World report quoted bankers as predicting that lending rates will settle at an 11% to 13% band in the short term.

Mr. Cuisia said such a scenario may not be sustainable. "I don't know how much lower interest rates can go, with inflation at 7.8%, and (90-day) T-bill rates at 10%, real interest may actually be negative," he told the committee.

Banks also have to remit 25% of their deposit liabilities to the CB in the form of gross receipt taxes and other requirements.

Still, Mr. Cuisia reiterated Government's policy thrust of allowing market-determined interest rates to promote greater competition and efficiency in the financial system.

Military Study Proposes Multinational Spratly Team

HK2904054693 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] is now assessing a proposal for the creation of a multinational force composed of representatives from claimant countries to the Spratly Islands tasked with maintaining the security of the island group. According to AFP spokesman Colonel Ruffo De Vera, the suggestion was made by officials of the Armed Forces after President Ramos and PRC President Jiang Zemin agreed to set aside the issue of sovereignty over the Spratly Islands and instead begin a joint economic exploitation [preceding three words in English] of the oil-rich islands. The multinational force will be formed if all the claimant nations, namely China, Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan, Vietnam and the Philippines, agree to a defense treaty. The multinational force will oversee the development projects to be conducted in the area. Security arrangements will be based on the framework of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The Philippines is the only country which maintains a airstrip in the Spratlys, while Vietnam has troops on 21 islands in the group.

TV Shows Film of Muslim-Held Kidnap Victims

HK2904152593 Hong Kong AFP in English 1459 GMT 29 April 93

[Text] Manila, April 29 (AFP)—A Spanish Roman Catholic priest kidnapped by Moslem gunmen in the southern Philippines was shown on television Thursday [29 April] looking greatly emaciated, saying he longed for release but was ready to accept his fate. "I can say (I'm) happy here and have no difficulty with the ones who are near to me," said Father Bernardo Blanco in an exclusive interview with private television Channel 5 in his abductors's mountain hideout. "If it is possible to be released okay, but if impossible to be released I'm also indifferent to that. I accept everything as it is," said the 65-year-old native of Zamora, Spain, who was taken at gunpoint on March 18 in southern Basilan province.

Channel 5 also showed video footage of five-year-old Anthony Biel who was also abducted by Moslem bandits. The boy, from a wealthy family, was shown being taught to ride a horse and handle an M-16 assault rifle by one of the abductors identified as "Malaysia." The young Biel told the television reporter he missed his parents but said he would like to take "Malaysia" with him when he returned home.

The bespectacled Blanco looked undernourished and unshaven during his interview, which the station said took place in Upper Kapayawan village in Basilan, 900 kilometers (560 miles) south of Manila. It did not say when the interview took place. Blanco was wearing a pair of rubber slippers, a grey polo shirt and pants. He appeared confused during the interview which took place in a thatched hut on a mountain clearing.

The station said Blanco was guarded in rotation by about 30 armed men. It added that his abductors, led by a former Moslem separatist guerrilla, have vowed to kill the priest "as a last resort" if a six million peso (230,000 dollar) ransom was not paid. "I have been resting," Blanco told the Channel 5 reporter, but his emaciated cheekbones and sunken eyes appeared to belie his statement. "I have lost a little (weight) because really there has not been much food here," he said, adding that women usually brought him fruit.

He also said that he had been "treated with respect except on three occasions." Asked to elaborate, he said "I don't think it's necessary." Blanco was earlier reported to have been transferred by his original abductors two weeks ago into the hands of another Moslem extremist group, one of several armed factions operating in the southern Philippines, who demanded the ransom.

Thailand

Audio, Video Tape Shops Required To Keep Inventory

BK2804085393 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 28 Apr 93 p 5

[Text] The Commercial Registration Department has told retail shops selling music tapes to prepare inventory lists of goods in their possession.

According to Director General of the Commercial Registration Department Chalo Fuang-arom, Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon has signed a ministerial regulation requiring that individuals engaged in trading in music tapes, video tapes, and compact discs to keep inventory lists of their goods. This regulation also applies to shops which are not corporate entities, and traders with an imcome exceeding 15,000 baht per day.

The regulation will take effect 60 days after the announcement in the Royal Gazette. This is in order to allow shops to have enough time to prepare the lists. In cases of failure to comply, they are liable to a fine of not more than 20,000 baht and a daily payment of not more than 200 baht until they can comply with the regulation.

The purpose of the order is to facilitate suppression of intellectual property right violations according to the policy of the government. Officials of the Commercial Registration Department are empowered to check inventory lists of shops selling music tapes, video tapes, and compact discs in order to crack down on piracy. Officials of the Commercial Registration Department are working with the Commerce Ministry's task force in charge of suppression against intellectual property right violations.

THAI RAT: Appeasing U.S. on IPR Shames Nation

BK2804085193 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 28 Apr 93 p 5

["Lom Plian Thi' (Wind Changes Direction)" column: "Do Not Appease the United States So Vigorously That the Nation Is Ruined"]

[Text] Frankly, I am disappointed by the attitude of the Chuan Likphai government—including Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak and Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon, who are charged with negotiating the intellectual property rights [IPR] issue with the United States—when I see the way it has been so overly eager to please the United States so that the U.S. trade representative will not impose trade retaliations associated with Article 301.

It creates the feeling that Thailand has become a colony that the United States can order to do anything it wishes.

In addition, with all that the Chuan government has done, it has still failed to please the United States, as evidenced by the U.S. trade representative office's memorandum to the Thai Government through the Thai Embassy in Washington.

The memorandum says Thailand's suppression of counterfeit tapes is all well and good, but the United States is not yet satisfied and Thailand must do the following:

1. The Thai Government must create confidence by enforcing laws to effectively protect U.S. rights, such as long-term enforcement of the copyright law. The United States wishes to see a rapid decline in counterfeit products. Major piracy business must cease immediately.

2. The Thai intellectual property laws must be amended to be acceptable at the international level. The draft 1992 patent bill must be amended by the parliament and an enforcement date must be set.

3. The Thai Government must make a special committment to change the patent law relating to the revocation of patents, and the Thai Government must eliminate discrimination or prejudicial treatment of pharmaceutical patents.

4. The Thai Government must make a special committment to improve retroactive protection. The United States wants Thailand to retroactively protect drugs patented in its country, as opposed to the Thai stipulation that protection for such drugs will not exceed one year, which the United States believes is too short.

What do you readers think about the USTR's memorandum to the Thai government? It reads like a colonial treaty of the old days.

If the Chuan government bows meekly to the U.S. dictates without any conditions, I believe the opposition bloc should show its "patriotism" and preserve national honor by calling a no-confidence motion immediately after parliament convenes.

The issue of the violation of pharmaceutical patents and music tape, laser disc and computer software copyrights is universal, including in the United States itself.

If you visit New York, go to the world's most famous street, Fifth Avenue. You will see all sorts of "counterfeits" which "violate copyrights", including Gucci, Pierre Cardin, Lanvin, Cartier, and Bally clothes, leather products, and watches similar to those which the Thai police destroyed by the tens of thousands.

I saw with my own eyes those products on the avenue. How many more are sold on other streets I wonder.

Not only are fakes sold in New York, they are sold in Washington, D.C., the U.S. capital, and near the White House as well.

If this is not enough, the sale of counterfeits is so blatant on Washington streets. Sellers of these products are no different from their counterparts in Phatphong, Thailand. They use carts, small portable tables, vans, and pickup trucks to peddle their products.

Frankly, I believe the United States is a place where violations of copyrights are more widespread than in Thailand because the population is bigger, the number of tourists is greater, and the purchasing power is higher.

The violation of computer software and hardware copyrights by U.S. companies is also rampant, and litigation is a daily occurrence.

The latest news heard around the world is litigation between the giant Intel and AMD, or Advance Micro Devices, over the 468 chips.

Yes, once a law is in effect, it is the duty of the copyright holders to check for violations of their products and sue the violators. The duty of the government of any country is to enact laws to uphold fairness.

No governments chase after counterfeit products for copyright holders for the sake of appeasing another country in the way that the Thai Government is now doing.

It tarnishes the country's honor.

Base Talks on Nation's Interests, Dignity

BK2904125593 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 29 Apr 93 p 5

["Lom Plian Thit (Wind Changes Direction)" column: "The Fox and the Lamb"]

[Text] "Fight a hundred battles and win a hundred victories if you know yourselves and your emenies," says the book of warfare written by a Chinese sage, Sun Wu, thousands of years ago. On the contrary, if the enemy knows our capabilities and we do not know theirs, we will be defeated in every battle.

The government of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai is now making zealous endeavors for coypright protection to please the United States.

It assumes that the U.S. appreciation of the results of suppression of pirated music tapes will reduce the aggressiveness of the trade retaliation against Thailand.

If the assumption is true, the government will have something to show off during the upcoming house session next month.

However, according to the opinions of several international trade experts and the information I have gathered myself, it is unlikely that the United States will treat Thailand leniently, no matter how hard the latter tries to wipe out pirated music tapes.

If they have one inch, they will ask for a yard. The additional four-point demand submitted to the Thai Government through the Thai Embassy in Washington D.C. by the U.S. trade representative clearly proves this statement. The conditions incorporated in the demand were so offending that the U.s government dared not raise them for discussion during the congressional meeting.

Even if the Thai Government agreed to amend all the laws to give full protection to U.S. trade interests in Thailand, the United States will still eventually "pull the sword" out to execute Thai exports to the U.S. market.

We must learn from the EEC-U.S. trade conflict. The EEC, being aware of U.S. tricks, does not act submissively or yield to every U.S. demand if it is unreasonable and irrelevant to their common interests.

The ongoing reckless act of bullying U.S. trade partners, in particular weak nations with inexperienced leaders, worldwide by the adminstration of President Bill Clinton is due to the heavy economic and financial problems now facing the country.

The aftermath of the economic storm left the United States with an unemployment rate of 7.8 to 8 percent, the highest in eight years. Big companies like IBM and Sears have to lay off tens of thousands of workers.

The Unites States is experiencing a severe budget deficit, tremendous indebtedness, and an irrevocable international trade imbalance.

The only way President Clinton can revive the country's economy and solve the unemployment problem is to increase the earnings of the government and country and defend U.S. interests worldwide.

In February, President Clinton even swallowed his own words when he announced hefty increases in several types of taxes, including personal and corporate income taxes. He had promised Americans that he would not increase any taxes.

The U.S. corporate income tax is 36 percent, higher than that imposed by Thailand.

In addition to the tax increase, President Clinton drastically cut the national budget. The defense budget was slashed by $76 billion, or 1,938 billion baht—three times that of Thailand's fiscal budget.

The budget for public health, a rather significant issue for the United States, is to be reduced by $17 billion in the next four years.

It is obvious that the U.S. Government is making all possible efforts to revive the country's seriously ailing economy and to generate jobs for the unemployed 8 percent of the 260 million Americans.

Suffice it to say that the present U.S. Government does not think about any person or country in its endeavors to secure U.S. interests. There is no use kneeling down and begging for mercy.

Since Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Suphachai Phanitchaphak and Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon are going to the United States for negotiations on suspending trade retaliation against Thailand, I have something to remind them:

The negotiations must be based on the interests and dignity of our country. Do not submit to their unreasonable pressure, nor try to appease them unnecessarily because, in any event, Thailand will not be able to escape from the claws of Section 301.

Commerce Ministry: Crackdown 'Not Meant To Please' U.S.

BK2804103393 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said his ministry regularly holds consultations with the Foreign Ministry to discuss the impact of U.S. Section 301. He said the Foreign Ministry is responsible for talks on international laws, whereas his ministry deals with negotiations on amendment to laws related to the affairs of the Commerce Ministry. He said that cooperation between the two ministries has contributed greatly to efforts to solve national problems.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit apologized to the people for the destruction of music tapes at the Samsen Police Fire Brigade Station because it polluted the environment. He emphasized that the government will carry on with the raids against copyright violators. During an interview with newsmen at Government House before attending the cabinet meeting on 27 April, Churin said he did not feel good about the destruction of 200,000 tapes last week, but that it had to be done to guarantee that the tapes were not reused. He said the crackdown was not meant to please the United States. Even though Thailand faces trade retaliation from the U.S. Government, the Thai Government will continue to be firm in taking the action to suppress copyright piracy, which is illegal. The government is not trying to win political popularity but is pursuing correctness. Churin said he will not utter a word about whether Thailand can escape U.S. trade sanctions, since that would be propagada.

Ministry Decides on IPR Enforcement

BK2904044393 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 93 pp B1-B2

[Text] The Commerce Ministry yesterday decided on ways to enforce three laws relating to intellectual property rights, according to Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit.

Churin called for parties concerned to discuss enforcement of three acts: the Royal Directive on Consumer Protection Act of 1979, the Royal Directive on Control of Audio/Video Tapes Act of 1987; and the Copyright Act of B.E. 2521.

Currently applied under the PM's Office regulation, the Royal Directive on Consumer Protection Act calls for audio/video tapes and Compact Discs as controlled commodities.

The tapes are required to have labels on the case, or the envelope in case of CDs.

Moreover, the label needs to include the manufacturer's name and production location; importer's name; copyright owners; licensee's names; and price.

All audio/video tapes and CDs are required to follow the regulations except Thai music tapes produced for export only.

Meanwhile, all old tapes already produced have 90 days after official announcement in the Royal Gazette to comply with the regulations; while new productions have a 30-day period to set the record straight.

The regulations are expected to be announced in the Royal Gazette by 15 May 1993.

Meanwhile, the Royal Directive on Control of Audio/Video tapes Act of 1987 calls for proper documents before operating audio/video business. The Police Department is required to check with the Intellectual Property Department over the verification of the documents.

Regarding the Copyright Law of BE 2521, the copyright owners or licence holders are to report to the Intellectual Property Department on the property rights they own or are granted. If the rights are transferred, the report to the Department is also mandatory.

Meanwhile, a similar meeting to discuss another three relevant three acts: namely the Royal Directive on Price

Fixing and Monopolies Act of 1979; the Royal Directive on Export and Import of Merchandise Act of 1979; and the Revolutionary Government Decree of Vol 285, under the responsibilty of the Commerce Ministry is scheduled on 30 April.

According to Churin, audio/video tapes and CDs will be considered to decide whether they will be controlled commodities under the Royal Directive on Price Fixing and Monopolies Act of 1979.

Concerning the Royal Directive on Export and Import of Merchandise Act of 1979, the meeting will consider more restrictive measures to control machinery necessary for tape production in an attempt to make fake production more difficult.

Under the Revolutionary Government Decree of Vol 285 which normally requires the entity to present cash accounts, more restrictions will be considered in the April 30's meeting, to require both the entity and individual operators whose income exceeds Bt [baht] 15,000 per month or Bt1OO,OOO per year, to present the cash as well as stock accounts of their business.

Trade Associations Support Uthai's U.S. Visit

BK2904050593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 93 p B3

[Text] Representatives from thirteen Thai trade associations marched to express full support for Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon's trip to the United States yesterday, claiming that this time the government has taken the bull by the horns.

Uthai travelled to the US yesterday to talk with the US Trade Representative Michael Kantor in "unofficial" negotiations to get Thailand off the list of US trade retaliation targets.

According to Phonsit Sriorathaikun president of Thai Gem and Jewelry Traders Association, now is the time for the Thai government to talk with its US counterpart since it has a clearer stance with which to tackle the bilateral trade conflict than it has had inthe past few years.

If this talk yields a clear outcome, it will be beneficial for Thai exporters in the long run, said Phonsit.

"Nobody dares to draft their export plans so far due to the ongoing conflict," complained Phonsit.

Meanwhile, Wirot Amatakunchai, president of Thai Garment Manufacturers Association, commented that the Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon's trip to meet with the US Trade Representative Director Michael Kantor is well-timed.

"The trip will make everything clearer, because in the past the Thai government tended to use delaying tactics only to postpone the retaliation," commented Wirot.

Wirot also said that the country is hurt enough when kept on the US's priority foreign country (PFC) watchlist, since US importers have already slowed down the pace of orders.

According to a source in the export business, Washington's possible measure to increase the import tariff Is considered a harsh blow to Thai exporters.

Affected by the increasing tariff, US importers will be more hesitant to order Thai products, fearful of the higher tariff they are to shoulder. A higher tariff means more expensive Thai products in the competitive US market.

Thailand's Board of Trade also relayed a supporting message to the government's strong bid to take Thailand off the dreaded PFC watchlist and out of its Section 301 Trade Act retaliation.

Commerce Minister Uthai told reporters before departure that the objective of the trip is to ultimately aid the country's interests. Meanwhile, US ambassador David Lambertson had given the letter from the US Trade Representative Director Michael Kantor acknowledging the Thai minister's trip to the US.

In the letter, Kantor said, "Thailand should move expeditiously to address the four intellectual property rights issues essential to a resolution for this conflict."

The four issues refer to the Thai government's commitment to effective enforcement of copyright laws; amendment of Thailand's intellectual property laws; specific commitments to patent on compulsory licensing; and specific commitments on improving "pipeline" protection.

Prasong: Cambodia Border Points Still Closed

BK2904043393 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 93 p A2

[Text] Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri yesterday reiterated that crossing points along the Thai-Cambodian border were closed in compliance with Cambodia's ban on the export of logs.

Prasong said the ban order issued by Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) is still in force. The embargo became effective Jan. 1.

He added that there must be strong reasons to change any Thai regulation covering the border.

"We must give careful consideration to re-opening the border crossing points. Possible effects arising from the move should be taken into account," Prasong said at the airport upon returning from Indonesia with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai.

Prasong was responding to Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut's proposal for the Cabinet to re-open the border to allow Thai loggers to haul out equipment and processed wood.

Chawalit plans to recommend that the Cabinet temporarily re-open 21 border crossing points with Cambodia to ease the hardship on Thai loggers caused by the SNC embargo against the Khmer Rouge.

Chawalit, the New Aspiration Party leader, initially planned to forward the proposal to the Cabinet for consideration on Tuesday but withdrew it because Chuan and Prasong were in Indonesia while Prasong's deputy, Surin Phitsuwan, was in Saudi Arabia.

"I don't oppose the interior minister's idea. But the government believes compliance with the UN-endorsed log ban is a must," said Prasong, a Phalang Tham MP.

Chuan Returns from Indonesia, Reports on Talks

BK2804141393 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has ended his three-day official visit to Indonesia and returned to Thailand. The prime minister reported to newsmen on the results of his visit which, he said, has promoted economic, political, and social cooperation at both bilateral and regional level.

[Begin Chuan recording, in progress] ... economic cooperation, or the Growth Triangle, comprising southern Thailand, northern Malaysia, and northern Sumatra. The president accepted in principle the concept of this plan. Officials will consult with the Asian Development Bank to seek funding for the project. That was a major topic.

I would like to report on the political aspect now. Our foreign minister held consultations with his Indonesian counterpart. I also discussed with the Indonesian president about Thailand seeking membership in the Nonaligned Movement; President Suharto is the leader of the group now. Thailand has indicated its intention to be a member of the group which is now, more than in the past, focussing on economic development among developing countries. President Suharto said that he would support us.

While our foreign minister discussed Cambodia with his counterpart, I also discussed the same subject with the Indonesian president. We share a common view. We want to see peace in the region, especially in Cambodia. The president wished to see the Khmer Rouge take part in the process. Anyway, President Suharto stressed that the UN resolutions must be implemented and the election must be held even without the participation of the Khmer Rouge. [end recording]

Chawalit To 'Look Personally' Into Stock Investigation

BK2904023593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Apr 93 p 1

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut, besieged in recent days for comment on alleged connections between his party and certain stock manipulation suspects, yesterday announced he would look personally into the police investigation into the case.

Gen Chawalit said stock manipulation itself was not a big issue, but he would look into the case personally because it had generated a lot of public interest.

He said he did not know whether the 153 individuals and companies suspected of involvement in manupulation were guilty but the damage would only worsen while the matter was discussed publicly.

A total of 30 people have been accused by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) of manipulating the shares of First City Investment, Kritda Mahanakon, Rattan Real Estate and Siam City Bank.

Another 123 individuals and companies were also placed under suspicion of possible involvement and could be interrogated by police. Although the names of the 123 have not been disclosed publicly by the Stock Exchange of Thailand, lists have been leaked to the media.

Gen Chawalit said it was not right that officials had leaked the names to the public because no-one has been charged formally by the SEC.

Gen Chawalit has appeared tense in recent interviews when asked to comment on one of the initial 30 suspects and another in the latter group who allegedly have close connections with his New Aspiration Party [NAP].

Wichai Kritdathanon, who was among the first batch of 30 suspects named, is a known major financial supporter of the NAP, while the person in the latter group is said to be the wife of the minister's close aide.

Gen Chawalit has confirmed his party's connections with the two. Neither has yet been proven to have committed any wrongdoing.

Deputy Finance Minister Bunchu Trithong said yesterday the SEC should exercise caution when making allegations as this could cause serious damage to the stock market and all those implicated.

"The SEC has the power but it must be careful and think more about the possible repercussions of its actions," the senior NAP MP warned, emphasising he was speaking as a private citizen.

Gen Chawalit, when asked if any coalition member MPs or politicians found with connections with the alleged manipulators should follow Akon Huntrakun's lead and resign, said simply that no-one had been found guilty yet.

Mr Akon resigned his parliamentary and Phalang Tham Party memberships after his company New Imperial Hotel, was included among the 123 names.

Deputy Prime Minister Supachai Phanitchaphak has come under pressure to resign because he is a former chairman of Kritda Mahanakon Company.

"Mr Akon's resignation is a matter of conscience," said Gen Chawalit.

"And I haven't seen anything wrong in the case of Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak, who was once chairman of Krisada Mahanakorn."

Mr Bunchu said he admired Mr Akon's decision to resign, but raised the possibility that there might be more to the resignation than meet the eye.

He said Mr Akon could have been disappointed that he was not given an administrative post which would have helped him develop the country. He may have imply awaited the right time to resign. [passage omitted]

Deputy Premier Vows To Keep Post

BK2904040193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 93 pp A1-A2

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak yesterday dug in for an opposition onslaught, vowing to hold on to office and denying categorically he had been involved in the alleged manipulation of share prices at Kritda Mahanakon Co.

Suphachai, speaking to reporters at Don Muang military airport upon his return from Jakarta, brushed aside the demand by opposition MPs that he resign along with Phalang Tham MP Akon Huntrakun.

He insisted that as president of Kritda Mahanakon he had served as a professional administrator who had nothing to do with the day-to-day operations of the company.

"I became president of Kritda Mahanakon because of the business relations the company had with the Thai Military Bank," Suphachai said. "Besides [as president of Kritda Mahanakon] I had no authority to act on behalf of the company."

He said throughout his presidency at Kritda Mahanakon he attended a meeting with the company's shareholders only once.

"I was there [at Kritda Mahanakon] working for the bank to try to expand business. And my being there had nothing to do with a group of people who were [allegedly] manipulating the company's shares," Suphachai said.

Asked to comment on Akon's resignation, the deputy prime minister said he respected the Phalang Tham MP's decision.

"I believe Akon has his own reasons. I am not in a position to, explain [his motives]," he said.

Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan also denied the opposition'scharge that he had been involved in alleged share price manipulation by current president of Kritda Mahanakon Co, Wichai Kritdathanont. The opposition claims Wichai and Amnuai had been close business associates.

"I have done nothing wrong. Therefore I have no reason to consider whether or not to resign," Amnuai said. "Anyone who had been involved in share price manipulation must show his responsibility. But people who were wrongly accused should show their spirit in fighting back to clarify things."

A group of opposition MPs yesterday demanded that Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai, an appointed minister on the Democrat quota, resign after the companies he had been associated with were linked to alleged share price manipulation.

MP [Member of Parliament] Newin Chitchop (Chat Thai-Buri Ram) said as former president of Kritda Mahanakon and director of the New Imperial Hotel, Suphachai could not disentangle himself from the alleged share price manipulation by the management of the two companies.

"As chief executive, he must have been aware of what was going on regarding the company's performance and investment," Newin said. "I would like to see an appointee show his political spirit as well."

On Tuesday, Akon resigned as a member of the Phalang Tham Party and forfeited his status as a member of Parliament. The Phalang Tham Bangkok MP said he wanted to face an investigation into alleged share price manipulation without the privileges associated with his public office.

The New Imperial Hotel, which Akon chairs, was on a list of companies and businesspeople suspected of involvement in share price manipulation. The list prepared by the Securities and Exchange Commission had been sent to police for further investigation.

"Suphachai had served as president of Kritda Mahanakon and director at the New Imperial Hotel at the same time, so he could not have been ignorant of the fact that the New Imperial Hotel was buying into Kritda Mahanakon," Newin alleged.

"From a legal viewpoint, Suphachai may not have committed a wrong. But he should show political spirit the way Akon did," the opposition MP said.

Kobsak Saphawasu (Chat Phatthana-Nakhon Ratchasima), adviser to the House committee on finance, banking and financial institutions, said he was surprised by Akon's "abrupt" resignation. He said the Securities and Exchange Commission had not formally charged Akon of any wrongdoing.

Prachakon Thai Party leader Samak Suntharawet said he did not share the public excitement over Akon's resignation but was worried about the cost of holding a by-election.

"Why should we spend millions of baht on a by-election at this time? I'm saying this because I don't think Akon's resignation was justified. No body is accusing him of any wrongdoing," Samak said.

"If one can win praise simply by resigning, then maybe I should quit because I am standing trial on two [defamation] cases," he declared.

Deputy Agriculture Minister Suthep Thuaksuban, asked to comment on tb opposition MPs' call for Suphachai to resign, said the linking of Kritda Mahanakon to alleged share price manipulation had nothing to do with the deputy prime minister.

"I don't think Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai should resign. Taking the post of deputy prime minister is already sacrifice for the country," said Suthep, a Democrat.

Japanese Businessmen Analyze Future Investment

BK2904045593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 93 p B2

[Text] Japanese investment in Thailand may be slower in the future but it will still be buoyant in terms of value, say Japanese businessmen based in the Kingdom.

Mitsutoshi Koyama, general manager of the Sakura Bank, Bangkok Branch predicted that, once the country has enjoyed its steady investment flow from major Japanese corporations, the next wave will come from small to medium sized businesses.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Takuma Sato, president of Toyota Motor Thailand Co Ltd, said that the slower pace of Japanese investment does not indicate that Japanese investors have shied away from Thailand.

"In fact, most of the Japanese major corporations have already invested in Thailand taking into account the fact that Japanese Chamber of Commerce currently has 952 members, higher than any foreign chamber in Thailand," said Sato.

The flow of new investment will certainly slow down, but not in terms of value, Sato noted.

"The existing companies are likely to double or treble their investments in the future," he said.

Generally, the Japanese investors agreed that Thailand remains an attractive place for foreign investment, if only it can maintain its political stability to boost the confidence of new investors.

In addition, Thai officials should show consistency in investment policy, especially on the tariff restructuring programme.

Hiroyuki Maruko, president of Mitsui Co (Thailand) Ltd, however, pointed out three new phenomenon which might affect Japanese investment in the region.

Firstly, Japanese companies are facing stiff competition from non-Japanese companies which have injected huge amounts into the country during the past few years.

Secondly, the advent of the Asean Free Trade Area (Afta), in which the Asean countries have started to lower tariffs on manufacturing goods among the group for a maximum of five years within 15 years from now.

Lastly, the United States will, next year, start to integrate its market with Canada and Mexico under the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta) provisions.

Maruko said that the formation of Nafta will make Mexican producers emerge as a serious competitor to the Thais.

"It is too early to say how the three phenomenon could affect Thailand. It might not be as bad as expected, taking into account the fact that the middle class is obtaining more purchasing power and that has lead to a rise in domestic consumption," he said.

But as Thailand is losing its labour incentive industries to China, Maruko suggests the government places more emphasis on hi-tech industries, transport and communications.

According to a survey by the Japan External Trade Organization (Jetro) of 197 companies in Thailand, most export firms said they were suffering from the worldwide recession last year.

And it aversely affected the demand for electrical appliances, electronics construction and retail business in the second half of 1992.

Generally, Japanese companies in Thailand agreed that last year was not a good one for their businesses, blaming the May incident, the Aids problem and the recession in Japanese economy.

But 73.9 of them expressed the hope that the economy will recover to a good-to-moderate level this year, while 81.5 per cent of them thought that the economy will be good-to-average in the second half of 1993.

Thailand recorded a trade surplus of Bt [baht] 41.8 billion against Japan in sophisticated machinery and electrical appliances in 1992.

The report also forecast that the export growth rate of machinery for transport will increase from 17.8 per cent last year to 32.5 per cent this year.

It also predicted that electrical appliances and electronic exports to Japan will rise further from the 29.8 per cent recorded last year.

According to the survey, investment in the appliance, chemical and machinery sectors will increase this year, while the investment in machinery for transport will drop from Bt5.1 billion in 1992 to Bt2.6 billion in 1993.

Textile and apparel's is expected to drop from Bt2.7 billion in 1992 to Bt2.1 billion in 1993, and the investment in sophisticated machinery is likely to drop from Bt2.8 billion in 1992 to Btl.8 billion in 1993.

As overseas consumption is expected to decline, Japanese businessmen predicted that from now on Japanese companies in Thailand will place increasing emphasis on domestic consumption.

At the same time, they are likely to generate the money from domestic sources for new investment, with less direct investment from headquarters in Tokyo.

Koyama added that a number of interested Japanese investors have consulted his bank over the possibilities of investing in the areas of services and marketing.

Maruko predicted that the next major investment from Japanese companies might be in the steel or infrastructure programme areas.

For automobile, Sato said Thailand has capacity for the sector to grow into.

Local demand for four-wheel vehicles this year is expected to reach 450,000 compared with 360,000 last year.

Moreover, Sato predicted that in the six years it would reach 600,000.

The government's policy to improve its infrastructure aside, Thailand is still enjoying an advantage from its geographical location.

The country benefits from being a part of Asean and also having borders with emerging countries in Indochina, Sato said.

Vietnam

Hanoi Radio Condemns POW/MIA 'Fabrications'

BK2804153593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Article by Duong Quang Minh]

[Text] At the White House news conference on 23 April, U.S. President Bill Clinton said he was optimistic about Vietnam's latest goodwill in response to the recently found Russian document concerning American POWs in Vietnam, and that Vietnam has handed over to the United States some evidence that will shed light on the document. The U.S. President added that thanks to Vietnam's active response, the United States has more information to determine the remaining cases of the POW/MIA issue.

Earlier, on 21 April, General John Vessey, U.S. President special envoy, stressed at a news conference at the Pentagon after his visit to Vietnam that he did not believe any American POW is still alive in the country. He contended that the documents provided by Vietnam are correct, consistent with reality, and accurate. Meanwhile, Mr. (Brady Flanagan), a member of the POW/MIA agency asserted that he believes Vietnam has done its best in cooperating with the U.S. to settle the POW/MIA issue.

As a result, one may say that the curtains have dropped on another farce on POW/MIA issue. Like the previous comedies, the recent one carried similar fabrications on the POW/MIA issue. One may ask who the culprits of these comedies are and what are their objectives in cooking up such stories? U.S. public opinion has classified these persons into three categories: First, an ultra-rightist group in the United States who has maintained a hostile stand against Vietnam in the past several decades. Whenever U.S.- Vietnamese relations develop positively, this group will cook up stories on the POW/MIA issue, a sensitive one in U.S. society, to undermine relations. Second, a group of American and foreign politicians who use the POW/MIA issue to gain political influence. These persons will spread fabrications on POW/MIA to draw public attention in their favor in order to gain political interests. Third, a group of criminals comprising both Americans and foreigners who cook up POW/MIA stories to earn money. The U.S. paper THE NEW YORK TIMES in mid-1991 carried an editorial entitled "Trick to Make Money Through the MIA Issue." The article said some individuals of the industrial sector in the United States and Southeast Asia, take advantage of elusive hopes of American families with relatives listed as MIA, by advertising their names, by making donations, and organizing campaigns to set up MIA funds. The editorial said the attraction to make money by using the MIA issue is very great. Many people living in exile in the United States have even produced fake documents and told stories to these American families with the promise to help bring their relatives home alive if they are paid $27,000 for each case. We are indignant against bad elements who have spread fabrications on POW/MIA and we believe that the American people share our attitude.

One may still remember that in late 1992 when the MIA issue was seething in the United States, Senator John McCain at the U.S. Congress POW/MIA Committee described as cruel criminals those who cut photos from old Russian magazines and pasted them up as photos of American POWs still alive in Vietnam. Robert Thomas Brooks, former director of the U.S. Naval Intelligence Department, late last year said: We have encountered too many fabrications and inaccurate news and information on the issue. Former U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney in mid-1991 condemned as immoral people who preyed upon the suffering of some American families. He also hailed Vietnam for allowing the United States to set up its POW/MIA Office in Hanoi. Even President Bush himself said in August 1991 that there was no evidence of any American soldier still alive in Vietnam. Now, President Bill Clinton and his special envoy General John Vessey have also said the same thing.

We would like also to cite here some comments carried by the foreign press condemning those who spread fabrications on the POW/MIA issue for their own interests.

A Swedish evening paper on 24 April in an article entitled: "Who Are Liars and Why?" wrote: In the United States the MIA has become an issue for taking revenge. They resort to different methods to prolong suffering of mankind, especially the Vietnamese people. Vietnam has been destroyed and tens of thousands of families live in hardship and suffering not knowing the fate of their loved ones who have been listed as missing in war. While during the past 20 years they have been forced to find remains of American MIAs in Vietnam to answer groundless accusations made by the American rightest group.

We do not know how many comedies will be cooked up again after the recent tasteless Russian document. For our part, we have adopted an unswerving stand to treat the POW/MIA issue as a purely humanitarian one. We condemn those who use this issue for their political interests. We wish to see and struggle for the normalization of relations between the United States and Vietnam. However, these relations must be established on the basis of equality and mutual respect for the interest of each side and that of world community.

Sino-Vietnamese Border Gate Reopened

BK2904074493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 26 Apr 93

[Text] A new border gate between China and Vietnam has been opened. It is between Hekou in China and Lao Cai in Vietnam. The border gate had been closed for the past 14 years. According to the China News Agency XINHUA, the new gate is the result of talks between the authorities of Yunnan Province in China and those from Vietnam's province of Lao Cai. Hekou and Lao Cai are two important market places between the two countries dating back thousands of years. Trading between the two sides will increase when the railway passing through these two points is built by China and Vietnam.

Defense Minister Greets DPRK Counterpart

BK2804102893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Apr 93

[Text] On the occasion of the 61st founding anniversary of the People's Army of Korea, General Doan Khue, minister of national defense, sent a message of greetings to Marshall O Chin-u, minister of DPRK's People's Armed Forces.

In the message, the minister wished the people and the people's Army of Korea many new successes in the undertakings of constructing and protecting their fatherland.

Monthly Drop in Prices, Interest Rates Announced

BK2504013893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0517 GMT 24 Apr 93

[Text] Hanoi, April 24 (AFP)—Prices in Vietnam dropped 0.5 percent in March, the first price fall since the government launched an anti-inflation campaign three years ago, the State Bank has announced.

The State Bank announced the figure to explain its decision to lower interest rates effective April 20, according to the official SAIGON GIAI PHONG daily, seen here Saturday.

Average monthly inflation during the first quarter was 1.04 percent, down from 3.46 percent during the first quarter of 1992, the bank figures show.

Vietnam brought inflation down from an estimated 68 percent in 1991 to 17.5 percent in 1992, and is aiming for 14 percent in 1993, according to official figures.

Stringent controls on the money supply have held the local currency stable at around 10,500 dong per U.S. dollar for more than a year.

Export Turnover Rises in First Quarter

BK2904082893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Vietnam's export turnover reached U.S. $560 million in the first quarter, an increase of 16 percent against the same period of last year. The major export products include rubber, coffee, tea, and garments.

Deputy Premier Tours Hanoi Settlement Center

BK2604152793 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 19 Apr 93

[Text] Recently, Comrade Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh paid a working visit to the Hanoi Offset Settlement Center. Comrade Director Le Dinh Trung informed the deputy prime minister that during the first quarter of 1993, the Hanoi Offset Settlement Center had posted a turnover of 2,998.1 billion dong in offset settlements with Hanoi-based banks and business establishments. The settlement funds of the various business establishments stood at 1,644.2 billion dong, thus accounting for 50 percent of all offset settlement transactions for the first quarter.

At present, the offset settlement transactions between Hanoi and 46 provinces and cities nationwide have been computerized. The turnover of offset settlement transactions for the first quarter of 1993 has reached 889 billion dong. The settlement period has been reduced to one day from 14-15 days. In coordinating efforts with the state banking system in improving settlement methods, Hanoi has adopted a new approach by issuing checks and putting them into circulation, thus making it convenient for customers while at the same time guaranteeing quick, neat, and easy settlements. To date, the center has issued checks and completed an offset settlement of 528 billion dong, thus increasing the amount of its offset settlement transactions by five times more than projected.

Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh commended cadres and employees of the center for their good work performance. He reminded everyone of the need to continue upgrading equipment, applying modern and advanced settlement methods, comprehensively renovating settlement transactions, reducing the circulation of cash flow, and meeting in time the requirements of our country's economic reform at present.

Taiwan Grants Another $14 Million in Extra Loan

BK2704060093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 14 Apr 93

[Text] Taiwan has granted an extra loan to Vietnam. Taiwan last month signed a contract to extend a U.S. $15-million loan to Vietnam and it now is about to grant an extra $14 million with an interest rate of 3.5 percent per annum.

The loan raises the hope of development of small- and medium- sized enterprises and construction projects. It is also reported that the two sides will sign a bilateral investment guarantee agreement later this month.

Nguyen Khanh Visits State Bank Informatics Center

BK2704081593 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 17 Apr 93

[Text] Comrade Nguyen Khanh, deputy prime minister of the government, paid a working visit to the informatics center of the Vietnam state bank this morning, 17 April.

After he was briefed by Comrade Ta Quang Tien, director of the bank, on its organizational and operational progress in the recent past, Comrade Nguyen Khanh inspected the statistics system, the credit follow-up system, the capital and property registration system, the personnel records system, the banking operation analysis system, and some other installations at the center.

Comrade Nguyen Khanh commended the informatics center of the bank for its efforts in obtaining modern equipment to meet the needs of the economy.

The initial, successful application of informatics to the banking sector is part of the task of renovating various sectors, which has marked an important step in the modernization of our country's banking technology.

Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh also urged the center to strive to improve its speciality and attach importance to purchasing and replacing equipment so as to lift itself to international standards, thus effectively serving the country's economic renovation process.

Government Decree on Special Businesses Discussed

BK2804103493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Apr 93

[Text] This morning in Hanoi, the People's Police General Department and the Ministry of Interior organized a meeting with representatives of ministries, departments, and sectors at the central level and in Hanoi to promulgate the enforcement of the government decree on control over special businesses and make public a directive of the Ministry of Interior guiding the implementation of this government document.

The government decree points out: Special businesses consist of guest house renting; stamp carving; printing and photocopying services; shotgun manufacturing, repair, or rental as well as shotgun ammunition production; business activities requiring the use of explosives, heavy toxic substances, or radioactive materials; and cosmetic surgery which helps people change their physical appearance or remove their visible scars or marks.

To guarantee strict enforcement of this government decree, the Ministry of Interior has issued a directive clearly defining those special businesses and setting conditions that interested organizations or individuals must meet when applying for business licenses. The directive also puts forth measures to oversee the observance of public security and order regulations by organizations or individuals engaging in those special businesses.

Nguyen Duc Binh Visits Western Highland Provinces

BK2604120193 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 23 Apr 93

[Excerpts] Recently, Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, paid a working visit to the Provinces of Dac Lac, Gia Lai, and Kon Tum in the western highlands which serves as housing to ethnic minority compatriots. While there, he had working sessions with the standing bodies of provincial party committees, people's councils, and people's committees as well as with leading officials of local sectors on implementing political tasks and the party Central Committee's Fourth Plenum resolutions. He also devoted much of his time to assessing the implementation of the Political Bureau's Resolution No. 10 relating to agriculture, forestry, and allotment of agricultural and forest land by a number of state farms and cooperatives.

While in Kon Tum Province, Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh toured Ngoc Giao village. He noted with pleasure the initial changes for the better in agricultural production and in the improvement of the living conditions of the nine hamlets inhabited by compatriots of the Gia Rai ethnic group. Those initial results were credited to the efforts to link settled life and settled farming activities with the allotment of agricultural and forest land to people to engage in agro-forestry production through wet rice cultivation, fruit tree planting, and afforestation. [passage omitted]

Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh also visited a boarding school for ethnic minority students in the province. He praised local officials for having made an appropriate investment in education, thus creating conditions for local ethnic minority students to attend school on a regular basis and providing villages, hamlets, and grass roots establishments with young, competent cadres. He warmly commended teachers of both sexes for their work dedication and praised students for their active school performance.

In touring the local radio and television station, he praised cadres and employees for closely following real life situations and carrying timely reports on local ethnic minoriry compatriots' production and daily activities.

In his talk with leading officials in the province, Comrade Nguyen Duc Binh analyzed the strong points and potential of the western highlands. He stressed: The assistance of the central government and other sectors and provinces constitutes a very important factor for bringing into full play those strengths. However, the personal efforts of the provincial party organization, administration, and ethnic minority compatriots constitute the most decisive factor. At the same time, it is necessary to bring into play the revolutionary tradition and solidarity among compatriots of different ethnic groups and religions. Steps must be taken to make the western highlands rich economically and firm in political stability and in national defense and security.

Phan Van Khai Visits Da River Delta Provinces

BK2604150193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 21 Apr 93

[Text] From 12-18 April, Comrade Phan Van Khai, member of the party Central Committee's Political Bureau and deputy prime minister, paid a working visit to the standing bodies of the Hoa Binh, Son La, and Lai Chau provincial party committees, people's committees, and people's councils. The objective of the visit was to gather facts for forming the socioeconomic development strategy for the northwestern part of the country and for the party Central Committee's Fifth Plenum on agriculture, the countryside, and peasants.

Through his fact-finding trip and working sessions with key cadres in the above-mentioned provinces, the deputy prime minister attached the utmost importance to ways to help the three Da River Delta provinces eliminate poverty or extreme poverty compared with other provinces throughout the country and quickly narrow the gap between them and lowland and urban areas. In this way, together with the entire nation, they will eliminate poverty and backwardness by the year 2000.

The deputy prime minister instructed sectors responsible for providing assistance to the above-mentioned provinces to help them not only with budget allocations and loans but also with production orientations, technology transfer, and especially with mechanisms and policies aimed at creating conditions for local compatriots to destroy poppies. To this end, financial assistance alone is not enough. Additional steps are needed. Therefore, it is necessary to help local compatriots define production orientations and get breeders and saplings of high economic value to generate sufficient income for them.

The deputy prime minister attached special importance to the training of cadres for mountain and high-lying regions. He reminded all sectors and echelons of the need to dispatch cadres to grass roots establishments, especially those in high-lying, remote, and far away areas. The government will provide adequate funds to those cadres so they can build infrastructure. Besides the central government-supplied funding, the provinces should rely on the people and mobilize their manpower and material resources to build public utility projects and improve the means of production and people's living conditions in each region.

Australia

Reportage on Japanese Premier's Official Visit

Officials Preview Miyazawa Trip

OW2804125193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1242 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Sydney, March 28 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's visit to Australia this week will strengthen resistance to "protectionist" U.S. trade policy, a former Australian diplomat to Japan said Wednesday [28 April]. "This is really the first time Australia has gone against a cozier relationship with the United States," Rikki Kirsten, an Asian history lecturer at Sydney University, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

While government officials insist Australia remains unbiased in relation to trade difficulties between Japan and the U.S., Kirsten said Canberra's interests are aligned with Tokyo's and run against Washington's protectionist policies. Kirsten said free trade is important for Japan to avoid the "managed trade" policy of the U.S. and for Australia to compete with producers who are subsidized by their governments.

Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating is expected to push for settlement of the Uruguay round of global trade talks during his meeting with Miyazawa on Friday [30 April]. However, a settlement of the long drawn-out talks is considered a potential source of embarrassment to Japan if it lifts a ban on rice imports but imposes massive tariffs that contradict a free-trade policy. Keating is also expected to promote the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum, an Australian initiative. APEC would promote trade liberalization, such as standardization, beyond the Uruguay round. Unlike most countries, Australia enjoys a trade surplus with Japan of 5.3 billion Australian dollars (about 3.8 billion U.S. dollars) a year. The surplus puts Australia in a more objective position when discussing trade issues with Japan, according to a spokesman for Keating.

Canberra has supported Tokyo's role in negotiations with North Korea and Cambodia, and government officials say Keating will ask Miyazawa to take a stronger position on regional security issues at the July summit in Tokyo of the Group of Seven economic powers. While a senior bureaucrat in the Foreign Ministry enthusiastically referred to the relationship between Australia and Japan as a "natural partnership," neither Keating nor Miyazawa supports an exclusive pairing. Instead, they have formed what Kirsten said is the strongest lobby group against U.S. trade policies to which Australia has ever belonged.

Miyazawa Arrives 29 Apr

BK2904111493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1105 GMT 29 Apr 93

[by Tim Cribb]

[Text] Canberra, April 29 (AFP)—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa arrived here late Thursday at the start of a brief official visit to Australia, with trade problems and prospects dominating his talks with counterpart Paul Keating on Friday.

Miyazawa's chartered JAL [Japan Airlines] aircraft, sporting Australian and Japanese flags, landed at the Fairbairn airforce base at 8.19 p.m. (1019 GMT) without incident and he was given a red carpet greeting by Foreign Minister Gareth Evans and senior officials.

He then went to the luxury Hyatt Hotel in an 11-car convoy led by police and escorted by motorcycle outriders to rest ahead of official talks Monday.

Accompanied by an entourage of politicians, advisers and some 100 members of the Japanese media, Miyazawa will spend about 38 hours in Australia before flying out Saturday for New Zealand and talks there with the government of Jim Bolger before returning to Tokyo on Sunday.

Officials here said regional trade would be the dominant issue at formal talks between Miyazawa and Keating at Parliament House on Friday—the pair established a good raport when the Australian prime minister visited Tokyo last year.

The first Japanese leader to visit here in five years is also scheduled to meet Evans and members of the Keating cabinet.

But while the Japanese media reported that Miyazawa was expected to press for Australian support in Tokyo's ongoing trade conflict with the United States, Keating indicated prior to the premier's visit that Canberra was not prepared to become involved in the dispute.

And the Australian leader was urged by the influential business daily Australian Financial Review not to get enmeshed "in what amounts to an alliance with Japan in its trade dispute with the U.S.," though he should "certainly implore the U.S. to abandon any thought of a policy of 'managed trade'."

The Washington administration, wrestling with a significant trade deficit with Japan, indicated such a posture after the recent trade meeting between President Bill Clinton and Miyazawa, although it has softened its tone of late.

Australia, however, enjoys a comfortable trade surplus, with 1992 figures showing exports to Japan totalling 12.4 billion U.S. dollars—some 28 percent of total exports—with imports at 7.0 billion U.S. dollars, 2.1 percent of the total.

Commentators here noted that Australia was probably the only country in the region not in dispute with Tokyo over trade imbalances.

While Miyazawa may sound out Australia's support in the increasingly tense dispute with the Clinton administration, Keating was likely to distance his government from becoming directly involved, instead expressing concern about Australia getting caught in any trade conflict cross-fire.

"We have very important relationships with both Japan and the United States, their bilateral relationship defines a lot of the environment and atmosphere in the Pacific," an official said.

"It won't be (Keating's) intention to take sides in that but rather he'll be alert to where Australia's interests are at play in it, where there are points that we need to watch to protect ourselves," he said.

Keating is expected to discuss the emerging potential role for Japan in Asian regional security, though the 73-year-old Miyazawa, a professed pacifist, is known to be uncomfortable about committing forces in any major role beyond a strictly limited contribution to United Nations' peacekeeping activities, notably in Cambodia.

The deteriorating situation in Cambodia, as the Khmer Rouge faction maintains a violent opposition to scheduled free elections there in late May, is also slated for discussion.

Keating is keen to talk to Miyazawa about elevating the role of the 15-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, and he is expected to press the Japanese leader to lend his support to Australia's call for a "loose economic federation" in the Asia-Pacific region.

So far, Japan has withheld support unless the idea wins backing of other APEC members.

APEC groups Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan, the United States and the six members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Keating, a former treasurer under the prime ministership of Bob Hawke, is also expected to question Miyazawa on the Tokyo summit in July of the Group of Seven leading industrialised countries.

Miyazawa is scheduled to hold a news conference on Friday after his talks with Keating.

KYODO Details Agenda

OW2904105993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 29 Apr 93

[Text] Canberra, April 29 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa arrived Thursday [29 April] in Canberra on the first leg of a four-day visit to Australia and New Zealand.

Miyazawa is schedeled to meet Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating on Friday [30 April].

He will go to New Zealand for talks with Prime Minister James Bolger on Saturday [1 May].

Talks with Keating and Bolger will include security in the post-Cold War era, cooperation in the Cambodian peace process, and how to defend a global free trading system, Japanese officials said.

They will also discuss the July 7-9 summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations in Tokyo, the officials said.

Miyazawa has repeatedly vowed to place emphasis on Japanese diplomatic efforts to bolster ties with the Asia-Pacific region.

It is the first visit by a Japanese prime minister to Australia since a 1988 trip by Noboru Takeshita.

Miyazawa's visit to New Zealand is the first since the 1985 trip by Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Reference to Queen From Ministerial Oath Dropped

BK2804055293 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] In a new republican move, the Australian Government has dropped the queen from the ministerial oath of office, substituting it with the Commonwealth of Australia. Our political correspondent in Canberra, Linda Maltram, reports that while Prime Miister Paul Keating has been hosing down speculation of an early republican referrendum, the government has moved quietly to take another step away from the queen.

The new attorney general Michael Lavarch has become the first minister to take the revamped oath. A month ago, the bulk of Mr. Keating's ministry took their oath affirming to serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Keating: 1996 Referendum on Republic 'Unlikely'

BK2704070493 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 27 Apr 93

[Text] Australia's prime minister, Paul Keating, is reportedly backing away from any suggestion of a referendum on a republic as early as 1996. Camille Funnel reports that there is a strong reaction against the idea of staging a referendum at the same time as the next federal election.

[Begin Funnel recording] The prospect of a referendum on a republic at the next federal poll due in 1996 prompted swift condemnation from the republicans as well as the opposition. Leading republican Professor Donald Horn warned the move could be a disaster.

Mr. Keating's office has moved swiftly to hose down the idea, saying the prime minister believed the referendum as early as 1996 is highly unlikely. A spokesman for Mr. Keating says the prime minister will make it clear in a speech tomorrow that he wants debate on a republic to be thorough and not rushed.

Mr. Keating's republican push has been boosted, however, by former Victorian Liberal leader, Sir Rupert Hamer. He favors a republic with minimal changes, but warns the idea must have bipartisan support. [end recording]

Keating Forms Republic Advisory Committee

BK2904041693 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0300 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Australia's prime minister, Paul Keating, is accelerating his push to cut ties with Britain. He has announced the makeup of a committee to look at changes necessary to make the nation a republic.

The Republic Advisory Committee, which is due to report by September, is headed by a Sydney merchant banker and declared republican, Malcolm Turnbull.

Mr. Keating also announced six members of the committee who will look at removing all references to a monarch and the status, title, and possible selection process for a new head of state. It will also examine what powers the office might hold and implications for the states.

Statistics Bureau Reports 1.2% Annual Inflation

BK2804062093 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 28 Apr 93

[Text] Australia is continuing to maintain a low rate of inflation. Figures released today showed inflation increased .9 percent between the December quarter of 1992 and the March quarter of this year. The Australian Bureau of Statistics says that gives Australia an annual inflation rate of 1.2 percent.

Papua New Guinea

Dusava Offers To Redraw Border With Solomons

BK2904061893 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 29 Apr 93

[Text] Papua New Guinea [PNG] has offered to look into redrawing its international border with Solomon Islands. The offer was made by the PNG foreign secretary, Gabriel Dusava, at the opening of bilateral talks between PNG and Solomon Islands in the Solomons capital, Honiara, this morning.

Mr. Dusava said some of the long-standing issues and causes of problems between the two countries stemmed from their common border, which had been drawn by the two countries' former colonial powers. He said the colonial powers were totally ignorant about traditional Melanesian ties and the future dilemmas they were creating. Mr. Dusava did not give any details of a proposed new border.

The foreign secretary also stressed that the presence of Bougainville Revolutionary Army elements in Solomon Islands was the single most important stumbling block to peaceful relations between PNG and Solomon Islands.

Bougainville Chiefs, Leaders Form Peace Committee

BK2404080993 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 24 Apr 93

[Text] More than 100 chiefs and other leaders from Bougainville have wrapped up a week-long meeting by forming a 13-member peace negotiating and monitoring committee. Sean Dorney reports that it will explore ways of opening dialogue with rebel-controlled Central Bougainville.

[Begin Dorney recording] The peace negotiating committee has representatives from each of the six interim authorities in the province even though the six covering rebel-held Central Bougainville has not been formed yet.

Women, who have said they would like to spearhead peace negotiations, have one representative. The committee will review the Honiara Accord—that still-to-be-implemented peace initiative from early 1991—that envisaged the multistate task force to be deployed on the island to see if that accord's provisions could be amended to accomodate the current situation on the island.

The Bougainville leaders forum also resolved that the BRA [Bougainville Revolutionary Army] should deal with the Bougainville peace negotiating committee, not Port Moresbey, if it has got any peace proposal. The chiefs and leaders, who present perhaps 80 percent of the population, say they want to hold another Bougainville leaders forum soon, possible in Arawa, the provincial capital, and involving those now under rebel control. [end recording]